

Simply radiant
 Activist David Mahon undergoes
 experimental treatment for HIV.
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Let the queer prisoners go
 The Romanian President meets
 with Supervisor Mark Leno.
page 14



Love is the key
 'Lesbian Family Portraits'
 at SF Main Library.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 28 • No. 31 • 30 July 1998

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 27 years

Fallout over Vida; SFAF says clients are being served

by Cynthia Laird

Local lesbian and gay leaders have expressed serious concern over the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's (SFAF) decision to eliminate its *Vida y Movimiento* (Life and Movement) program for HIV-positive Latinos, with one going so far as to suggest the \$16.7 million AIDS service organization has lost touch with the community and its own mission.

Also this week, the foundation issued a response to its decision to disband *Vida* and maintains that all of the clients are receiving services elsewhere.

Some of the clients affected by the program's closure have taken their case to several community forums, including the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Democratic Club. They are requesting that SFAF dip into its healthy reserve funds, if necessary, to continue the program that has helped Spanish-speaking HIV-positive people with case management and other services since 1991.

Beginning August 1, those case management services will be handled by Instituto Familiar de la Raza (IFR) and the Mission Neighborhood Health Center (MNHC). Workers at both of those agencies said last week that they don't view the *Vida* program as a duplication of services. That was the reasoning given by SFAF administrators when asked about the decision to end the program. One administrator also told the *Bay Area Reporter* that there were "only so many dollars," in response to a question about the possibility of privately funding *Vida*.

When the SFAF wasn't awarded federal Ryan White CARE funds for case management last month, foundation administrators decided to pull the plug on *Vida*, while keeping its program for women in operation with private funds. Many soon-to-be former clients want SFAF to also privately fund *Vida*.

San Francisco Treasurer Susan Leal, the city's highest-ranking elected Latina lesbian, said she couldn't believe it when informed of the foundation's decision. "I think they really need to re-look at their mission," Leal told the *B.A.R.* "I find that pretty hard to believe and difficult to comprehend. It's incomprehensible that they're reducing programs for people of color because that's where [HIV] cases are on the rise."

On Monday, July 27, Susan
page 23 ►



Barry, left, and Beau do some shaking at last Sunday's annual Up Your Alley street fair in San Francisco. For more on the happenings, see Mister Marcus's column on page 44.

Jane Philomen Cliland

'Degrading places' term disputed

Bathhouse, sex clubs can be proactive in HIV prevention

by Timothy Rodrigues

Bathhouses and sex clubs — long a part of the gay community — may increasingly be partners in the battle against HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

The popularity of these commercial sex establishments cannot be disputed. There are several such venues in San Francisco and other Bay Area cities, and they are often crowded with patrons, men of all types, late at night and over weekends; one such business reports 8,000-11,000 visits a month.

Many ask what is being done to prevent the transmission or acquisition of HIV and other STDs in these establishments. Although there have been some programs in existence for years, there seems to be a growing commitment to "meeting men where they are" when they are making sexual decisions and some sense that commercial sex clubs and bathhouses may offer the perfect opportunity to do this.

An example of aggressive efforts to get at men's thinking in a commercial sex establishment is the award-winning Health Information Program at Steamworks Bathhouse in Berkeley. The business is one of a few bathhouses in the Bay Area; San Francisco bathhouses were closed many years ago.

"The greater part is not where you are having sex, but is the sex you are having safe," Paul Cotten, director of the program, told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

'Degrading places'?

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) is offering a session as part of their



Paul Cotten

new Gay Life program on August 29 called "Oh the Degrading Places We Go: An amusing and provocative after-hours bus tour of tea rooms, bookstores, public sex spots, seedy bars and clubs — you name it, we'll take you there."

Derek Gordon, SFAF communications director, stated that it is not the goal of the session to make a judgment on such establishments but to stimulate discussion and allow men an opportunity to examine the reasons they might choose to attend. "The whole goal of the [Gay Life] series is to get people talking about these issues ... what motivates their sexual decision making," he said, stressing that camp and humor were

being used to engage dialogue around serious issues.

A number of health educators interviewed for this story acknowledged that the Gay Life program has had a positive focus but were uncomfortable with the choice of words in the title. "Words are very powerful, you can either build someone up or tear them down," said Lee Woo, executive director of the Bay Area Health Support and Education Services (BAHSES), a group that among other things provides health and safer sex outreach in sex venues.


Robert Perez, communications manager
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Ups and downs of Viagra use by gay men

by Liz Highleyman

The issues surrounding gay men and the anti-impotence drug Viagra came to a head Tuesday, July 28 at a town hall meeting held by the Stop AIDS Project. The session, titled "Harder, Faster, Longer" was held so that gay and bisexual men could discuss the use of Viagra among themselves and get information on possible dangers associated with the drug.

Since its approval by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in March, Viagra has become one of the best-selling drugs ever marketed, although sales for manufacturer Pfizer, Inc. have plummeted in recent weeks. Some have speculated that the cultural implications of Viagra will equal those of the birth control pill.

About 80 people attended the forum, where panelists included author Eric Rofes; Michael Scarce of UCSF; and Dr. Marshall Forstein of Boston's Fenway Community Health Center. Rofes noted that he began to hear about Viagra use among gay men last April in connection with circuit parties. Dubbed by some "Daddy's little helper" and the "pharmaceutical cockring," Viagra may have profound implications for gay men's understanding of what it means to be hard, the pressure to perform, older men's sexuality, and the perception that not being hard means a man is not having fun. Rofes said that he found the widespread discussion of Viagra among heterosexuals exciting, because it has given people permission to talk about "sexual pleasure disconnected from procreation."

Viagra works by inhibiting an enzyme and leads to improved blood flow to the genital area, which often results in firmer and

more long-lasting erections. However, the drug is not an aphrodisiac and only works when a person is already sexually aroused.

Scarce said that sexual technologies tend to "outpace public policy." Citing his own experience with the drug, he said he found that the drug did increase pelvic blood flow, but did not lead to a spontaneous erection (unlike Caverject, which is injected into the base of the penis). He noted that Viagra has implications for men's identity as bottoms or tops, and may impact safer sex practices.

Forstein focused on the medical aspects of Viagra. He said that Viagra "can make a 45-year-old penis feel like it did when it was 25," but that the drug is not for everyone. All sexual dysfunction is not related to impaired blood flow; for example, it may be due

to psychological depression or low levels of testosterone. Several conditions can lead to erectile dysfunction, including hypertension and diabetes — both of which are underdiagnosed in young gay men — and it is important to discover and treat the underlying cause. Forstein said that 10 to 20 percent of men using Viagra experience some side effects, most commonly flushing, headaches, and a blue tint to the vision. The drug stays in the body up to 24 hours.

There is a risk in using Viagra with common party drugs such as methamphetamine, cocaine or poppers. Combining Viagra with poppers (nitrite or nitrate inhalants) or related drugs (including nitroglycerin for angina pain) can lead to a sudden dangerous drop in blood pressure, possibly leading to strokes or heart attacks.

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Peninsula FrontRunners to host fundraising race

by Vicky Kolakowski

The BayLands FrontRunners will hold "Run for the Community," a benefit race, in Palo Alto on Sunday, August 16. Early registration for the event this Saturday, August 1, said organizers.

FrontRunners is a gay and lesbian running club with chapters throughout the greater Bay Area. The BayLands group is based on the Peninsula.

The event will include a 10K run, a 5K run, and a 5K walk. Awards will be given for the top three male and female runners in each age category in both runs.

Proceeds from the race will benefit the scholarship fund of the Peninsula chapter of Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and

Gays (PFLAG), and Free At Last, an East Palo Alto-based outreach and substance abuse program.

Early registration is \$20 per person until this Saturday, August 1, and includes a T-shirt. The registration fee is \$25 per person after the deadline and people will not be guaranteed T-shirts. Race numbers will not be mailed, but must be picked up on race day. The event begins at 8 a.m. ▼

Run for the Community takes place Sunday, August 16 at Palo Alto Baylands Athletic Center, Embarcadero and Geng roads. Registration, number and t-shirt pickup begins at 7:00 a.m. For more information, call (408) 984-4076 or visit <http://members.aol.com/baylands/>

Capsule shortage for Norvir

by Timothy Rodrigues

Abbott Laboratories has announced in a press statement that supplies of the capsule form of the protease inhibitor ritonavir (brand name Norvir) will run out in mid-August.

A manufacturing difficulty was recently discovered that produces a crystal formulation interfering with the way the capsule is absorbed by the body. Supplies of ritonavir now on the market are not affected and are reported to be both safe and effective. Abbott will provide pharmacies with a liquid formulation of ritonavir beginning in mid-August until capsule supplies can be reestablished.

"The oral solution and capsule are bio-equivalent," said Ben Cheng, assistant director of the information department at Project Inform, a treatment information and advocacy organization, suggesting those using ritonavir should not be concerned about the effectiveness of the liquid.

There might however be some inconvenience associated with the

switch.

"One of the issues we will come up against is who will want to carry this bottle of liquid," said Christopher Gortner, editor of the Spanish-language version of *Bulletin of Experimental Treatments for AIDS (BETA)*. "It is not recommended switching due to inconvenience if someone is doing well on Norvir because the issue will be resolved soon," he continued.

Also, it is reported by several, and implied in the Abbott release, that the liquid has a horrible taste. Suggestions are to mix the liquid with chocolate milk or a nutrition drink like Ensure or Advera, or take it with a fatty meal.

Ritonavir should be taken with a meal to improve absorption. Liquid ritonavir should not be refrigerated and should be used within 30 days. ▼

If you have questions you can contact your doctor; the Abbott information line at (800) 637-2400 or www.norvir.com; or the Project Inform treatment hotline at (800) 822-7422 or (415) 558-9051.

Plea bargain in the works for Josh Puckett

by Ed Walsh

Prosecutors appear to be throwing in the towel in the murder case against fledgling teen model Josh Puckett. The *Bay Area Reporter* has learned that a plea bargain deal is in the works between Contra Costa County prosecutors and Puckett's defense attorney Mark Liss. A mistrial was declared in Puckett's first trial last month.

On Thursday, July 23, Puckett turned down a deal by Deputy District Attorney Barry Grove. That deal would have been for Puckett to serve 15 years in prison, with the requirement that he serve 85 percent of the time before becoming eligible for parole, in exchange for pleas in both the homicide and burglary charges against him. The offer was essentially an acknowledgment by prosecutors that they are not optimistic about getting a murder conviction. Because Puckett has a strike for a previous armed robbery conviction, he could get more than 15 years on a manslaughter conviction and about 13 years on a burglary conviction.

Last Friday, July 24, Dale Miller, chief deputy district attorney, met privately with Liss and Contra Costa County Superior Court Judge James Marchiano in the judge's chambers. Afterwards, Liss met privately with Puckett and then with Marchiano. After Liss emerged from that meeting, he appeared more upbeat, chuckling and smiling broadly as he shook Marchiano's hand. Both the prosecution and defense are under a gag order, so they couldn't comment on the details of the latest, and presumably more defense-friendly offer.

Puckett is expected to give his response to the plea bargain offer either late this week or early next week.

Puckett, 18, is charged with the burglary of an Orinda home near the house where he confessed to bludgeoning 29-year-old Vitaly Poliakov to death with a cider bottle last year. A few days after the Labor Day weekend killing, police tried to arrest Puckett in San Luis Obispo. Officers said he ran from them, dropping his backpack that allegedly contained stolen property from the Orinda home. Investigators believe the burglary case is strong. A prosecution witness testified during Puckett's first trial that Puckett had bragged about burglarizing someone's house a day before the killing.

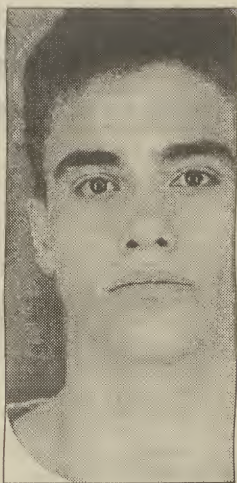
The prosecution's softened stance is in part the result of interviews with jurors from Puckett's first trial. As previously reported, eight of those jurors agreed to be interviewed by the B.A.R. Although they had heard most of the prosecution's case and none of the defense's, three sided with the defense, three with the prosecution, and the other two were neutral.

The prosecution's biggest obstacle may be Puckett's presence. The jurors in his first trial thought he presented a good image in court. Several female jurors remarked how handsome they thought Puckett is. Judy Bourke, who considered herself pro-prosecution, said Puckett

seemed like "a very likable young man." Juror Vicki Burton said she found it hard to believe he could be capable of murder. But Burton said she had a lot of problems with Puckett's story and wanted more than anything to hear directly from him about what went on the night of the killing.

Puckett maintains he never meant to kill anyone. Puckett says he is heterosexual and was just trying to protect himself from a series of aggressive advances that he characterized as sexual assault.

On the day following the mistrial, prosecutors had planned to introduce blood spatter evidence they claim would prove their theory that the fatal blow to Poliakov likely came from behind, while he was already down. Burton said that even if her fellow jurors had heard that evidence she didn't think the panel would have convicted him. ▼



Josh Puckett

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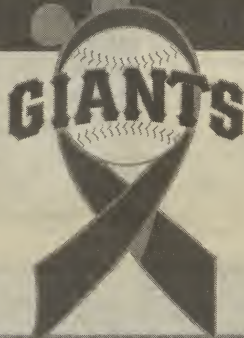


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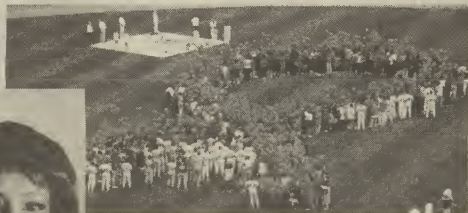
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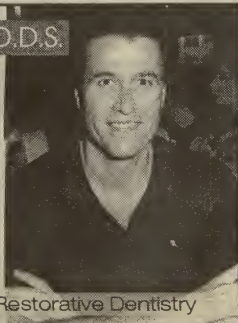
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Gay politicians weigh in on mayor's early endorsements

by Timothy Rodrigues

Mayor Willie Brown has initiated the November 1999 mayor's race by beginning to seek key early endorsements for his re-election, and some gay and lesbian political clubs are willing to consider his request, despite the fact that Brown has yet to formally declare he's running.

A quick check with several organizations in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) community that have a political focus (see side bar) has found a mix of opinions regarding the possible early endorsement of the mayor. Those interviewed cautioned they were speaking from their individual perspective as each organization has a very specific endorsement process that must be followed.

Brown received the early endorsement of the San Francisco Labor Council on July 13 with 84 percent of the vote. At that meeting the mayor said, "I don't think democracy is well-served with me having an opponent," as reported in the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Of the six predominantly gay political clubs surveyed, two will be considering an early endorsement vote, two will wait until the field is presumably a bit more flush, and two would be willing to consider the possibility if the mayor made such a request.

Co-chairs for both the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club and the Ambiente Latino Democratic Club feel the mayor has earned consideration for an early endorsement, and neither Fran Kipnis nor John Lira, respective co-chairs, would be surprised if their organization went with Brown early.

"I believe in an open and democratic process, but I believe the mayor deserves our support," said Kipnis.

Lira was equally encouraging and said, "If the membership feels it is not an issue or problem, I am sure the club will vote for him."

Criss Romero, president of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Democratic Club, and Mike German, president of Log Cabin, San Francisco (lesbian and gay Republicans), were clear that their organizations would wait until closer to the election next year.

"We actually made a motion to not early endorse until a candidate has filed [for election],"

Romero told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It really puts the mayor's intentions in question, and any club that early endorses, it puts them in question."

Describing Brown as a long-time friend of Log Cabin, German said, "Unlike the HRC [Human Rights Campaign], we wait until the field is full before we start considering their [candidates'] individual merits."

Both the Queer Latino PAC (political action committee) and the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) PAC would give consideration to the possibility of an early endorsement if the mayor made such a request.

"From my feelings, I think we would have no problem going through our process. I feel he would have no problems," said Eric Herbas, a GAPA co-chair.

"If the mayor did ask us, we



The "early" Mayor Brown.

would likely consider that [an early endorsement], but barring that we likely will not take it up," said Esperanza Macias, issues chair of the Queer Latino PAC.

When asked for specific work the mayor has done on behalf of

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What they're saying about the mayor

A sampling of opinions from the presidents and co-chairs of the organizations regarding Mayor Willie Brown and his call for early endorsements:

"I don't like early endorsements personally because an early endorsement does not take into account who might be out there. Often an early endorsement is more like an enforcement..."

— Mike German, President, Log Cabin, San Francisco (gay and lesbian Republicans)

"I think he has established himself as a national spokesperson for gay rights across the country..."

— Fran Kipnis, Co-chair, Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club

"If you look at it from what he has done for our community, I think he has done a lot of good things. We are much better off than in the previous administration."

— John Lira, Co-chair, Ambiente Latino Democratic Club

"I guess I am somewhat surprised because this mayor strikes me as someone who enjoys a challenge and feels strongly about his accomplishments to date."

— Esperanza Macias, Issues Chair, Queer Latino PAC

"He has definitely put San Francisco on the map, I think, because he is very outspoken and he is a leader...past mayors have been boring."

— Eric Herbas, Co-Chair, GAPA Political Action Committee

"I think it puts undue pressure on a lot of the democratic clubs."

— Criss Romero, President, Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Democratic Club

— Timothy Rodrigues

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Laguna Honda bond issue tabled

by Timothy Rodrigues

Efforts to save the city's Laguna Honda Hospital, facility of last resort for many with AIDS and other illnesses, suffered a significant setback when a \$503 million bond proposal was tabled by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, July 28. The 132-year-old facility, run by the Department of Public Health (DPH), is a long-term care, skilled nursing facility, and often the only health care alternative for patients who have no health, financial, or social support options.

The Board voted 10-1 to essentially kill the bond measure at a special meeting that was initially scheduled to consider a final vote for the proposal to put it on the November ballot. That idea was approved 10-0 at a special meeting July 23.

"It [the bond proposal] was basically vulnerable to people who felt they were left out of the loop, especially home owners and tenants," said Supervisor Tom Ammiano.

The AIDS ward

Laguna Honda has an AIDS ward, started in 1990, as well as a hospice ward, and has often been the only option for seriously ill AIDS patients. "Basically everyone being admitted was for hospice care, and the average length of stay was 30 days," said Dr. Steven Thompson, medical director for the unit, talking about the early years of care. Since its beginning, 760 people with AIDS have died after arriving at the ward in the final stages of the disease.

Today it is a different story; there is on average one death a month. "The whole nature of what we are doing has changed," said Thompson, who talked about treatment options now available to people with AIDS. A stay in the ward often results in improved health and eventual release for many patients.

The majority of patients admitted to the ward in recent years are affected by multiple diagnoses — homelessness, substance abuse, mental health issues, or another physical ailments in addition to AIDS — who become unable to care for themselves. Many have been unable to comply with treatment regimens for AIDS or other conditions, and may be suspicious of the medical establishment.

There are currently 23 patients; five people were recently turned away from the AIDS ward due to a hospital-wide moratorium on new patients demanded by the federal Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). Thompson said that these individuals will likely return to a residential hotel or the streets until they get so sick that they are taken by ambulance to an emergency room for much more expensive care.

"I am concerned about the moratorium," said Ammiano, who was working to develop a deal that would have allowed the bond to move forward. He has contacted the DPH regarding possible options.

Health Director Dr. Mitch Katz said the moratorium is in place because of restrictions

placed on the facility by the HCFA after years of granting waivers for the open-ward structure. That consists of up to 30 patients in large rooms separated by curtains; the practice is inconsistent with regulations requiring no more than four patients in a room.

HCFA demanded that the patient population be reduced from nearly 1,200 to 800 because of its objections. DPH worked to negotiate a cap of 1,072 to be achieved by October 31 and got permission to accept all patients referred from San Francisco General Hospital who don't have anywhere else to go, as well as those in need of respite or end-of-life care. AIDS patients will be referred to other hospice facilities or provided with home health care.

Advocates have said that HCFA acted because it seemed the city was unwilling to make changes at the hospital and a successful bond proposal would have

been a sign that might encourage HCFA to again issue waivers.

Deal breaker?

Regarding the latest flip-flop on a bond measure, the powerful Service Employees International Union Local 250 which represents 1,000 workers at Laguna Honda, suggested the primary reason for the delay was "an ongoing dispute between tenants and landlords" and "misleading statements by Supervisor Barbara Kaufman."

Landlord and tenant groups have been caught in an ongoing disagreement regarding who pays for the increased property taxes from bonds. Up until May, landlords were responsible for all taxes related to bonds unless they got a waiver to pass the cost on the tenants. The supervisors changed the law saying the cost of all bonds, retroactive to the three

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BAY AREA REPORTER

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"Popping" pills

The possible dangers of Viagra, the hot new anti-impotence pill, were brought home to gay and bisexual men who attended a forum Tuesday, July 28. The fear is that men who have sex with men will, or already are, taking Viagra in combination with poppers, crystal methamphetamine, other party drugs, or anti-HIV medication with unknown but seemingly dangerous results. As Liz Hightleyman writes on page 2, there have already been reports of death among gay or bisexual men who have taken Viagra. There is also a fear among HIV prevention educators that men are using or may use Viagra and practice unsafe sex; this is particularly true if men are taking the pill in sex clubs or bathhouses and are under the influence of stimulants, thereby putting themselves at greater risk for HIV transmission.

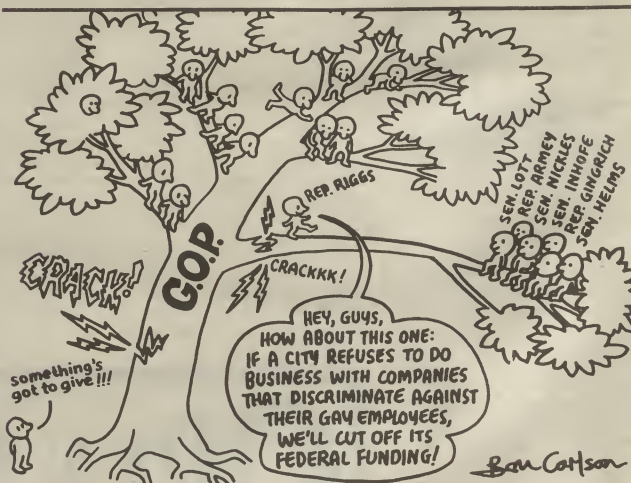
With all of the hoopla surrounding Viagra, it seems to us that Pfizer, the drug's manufacturer, should take a more aggressive approach to getting the news out about possible dangers of what some call "daddy's little helper," and target that information specifically to gay and bisexual men. After all, as one of the attendees at Tuesday's forum noted, "We have sex, too."

The forum was an example of a community-based organization doing what it's supposed to do: providing a resource targeted at an emerging problem that affects the health and well-being of people. We hope that all agencies dealing with the health concerns of gay men will similarly take this issue just as seriously.

There's another pill that's come into the news as well. Abbott Laboratories has just announced that the protease inhibitor

Norvir will not be available in pill form starting next month. That has potentially dangerous implications for people taking the drug; the liquid form that will replace the pills supposedly tastes awful and there is concern about patients currently taking the pills having to switch. There are also adherence issues because of the fact that people will have to carry around a bottle of liquid and that may result in the medication not being taken

when it should. The protease inhibitor regimens are already challenging enough without suddenly changing the formulation. Abbott has done the right thing in correcting the mistake, but years of mistrust of pharmaceutical companies in the AIDS community is enough to make us watch Abbott very closely. We urge people who are on a treatment regimen containing Norvir to consult with their physicians about this problem. ▼

**Editorial**

Queer atheists raise objections to Millennium March

by Tom Klein

Upon reflection and consideration of the issues involved, the board of directors of Gay and Lesbian Atheists and Humanists (GALAH) has decided to express our organization's strong objections regarding both the proposed "Millennium March" and the Metropolitan Community Church's (MCC) position as one of the two main sponsors. This proposed rally is more than a year away, giving the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and MCC plenty of time to recognize that it is inappropriate for a religious group to be a main sponsor of such an event and that the concept of the rally is severely flawed.

Concerns about MCC

The leadership of the HRC has not been charged with designating the chaplaincy of any national event. There are many groups in the community that style themselves as "spiritual organizations," as does the MCC. They will likely participate in any rally or march along with non-believers, the vast numbers of the religiously different and indifferent, and partisans of myriad other religious and political causes. The MCC are not our national spokespersons. We are not united by "spirituality," we are divided by it. The MCC is a parish church with its origins in the marginalization of sexual minorities by the Christian sects.

Itemized concerns:

- MCC's presence as one of the two main sponsors of the proposed march is a violation of separation of church and state. The experiences of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities make it clear how important it is for churches to stay out of politics. Not only is state/church separation important for atheists and humanists, it is vital to the prevention of persecution of minority sects, including the MCC.

- Another issue is the tax-exempt status of churches. Our movement should focus its energies on creating pressure for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to revoke the

tax-exempt status of churches that get involved in political activities, activities which are overwhelmingly homophobic, not to encourage the largest LGBT-identified religious group to get involved in activities which may violate its tax-exempt status. The recent retroactive loss of tax-exempt status by the Christian Broadcasting Network shows that enforcement of tax laws against the political activities of religious groups is a viable course of action.

- Having a religious group as one of the two main sponsors creates a less-than-friendly atmosphere for non-Christians including atheists, agnostics, and humanists.

- The homophobic nature of Christianity makes having a Christian church as a main sponsor a tactical error. Having a "Christian" march will only remind homophobes of the main reason why they think they should be hostile towards us and our civil rights. While some in our community have tried to rationalize condemnations of homosexuality in the Bible, the attempts have been based more on hope than reality. The fact that the homophobic passages in the Bible are worded differently should make even the most desperate queer Christian realize that the problem is not one of translation, but one of prejudice within the original text.

- Through its sponsorship, the MCC has the power to push agendas which are not consistent with the views and needs of the community as a whole. The most glaring example is the theme of the rally, "Faith and Family," an attempt by the MCC to impose religion on those of us who are atheists, agnostics, and humanists.

Concerns about 'Millennium March'

The very conception of the rally is discriminatory to non-believers. The millennium has Christian context based on the supposed date of Christ's birth. With any other calendar, we would not be at the "millenni-

um." Also, the timing and form of a national event in the coming years must not be determined and proclaimed by any single group or pair of groups. Any organization which presumes to make so great a claim on community resources also must be non-partisan and non-sectarian in its call.

Itemized concerns:

- The emphasis on faith and spirituality rather than diversity is a major problem. Not all queers have any religious or spiritual beliefs whatsoever. The attempt to create the fake impression that most LGBT people place a strong emphasis on religion in their lives flies in the face of the reality that most Americans, regardless of sexual orientation, do not even attend church regularly.

- The "millennium" in the name "Millennium March" is an unfortunate mistake which can only fuel fundamentalist hysteria surrounding the year 2000. Much of the grassroots fervor behind the religious right is based on end-of-the-world prophecies whose timetables occur around the year 2000. We should do nothing to encourage any special significance to the year 2000. Besides, no one will be marching because they are thrilled with the year 2000. The word "millennium" would be better replaced with words such as "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender" which would have the added benefit of bringing this march out of the closet.

- Past marches were not proprietary events of two organizations. They belonged to the community as a whole. In order to have a march that addresses the entire community, we need a march committee like past march committees which were more broadly representative. Besides, HRC and MCC should not try to capitalize on the tremendous efforts of people who put together past marches for their own gain.

GALAH hopes that the HRC and MCC will abandon their irrational approach and support a secular and more broadly based march at a time agreed upon by a broad cross-section of our community. ▼

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

East Bay AIDS Walk Sunday

I hear a gigantic vacuum cleaner sucking money from the pockets of good-willed people in the East Bay. It must be time for the SFAF AIDS Walk again.

Aside from excessive amounts spent on overhead and administration (*Bay Area Reporter* editorial, July 23), the SF AIDS Walk takes much more out of the East Bay than it gives back. This despite higher PWA poverty rates in the East Bay.

Various East Bay organizations are considering a grassroots East Bay AIDS Walk for next summer. The funds will stay in the East Bay and be distributed by a democratic formula decided upon by participants. Interested parties should call (510) 568-1680.

There will be a small AIDS Walk at 10 a.m. this Sunday, August 2, starting at 21859 Mission Boulevard in Hayward. All funds from this walk, sponsored by the local leather community, will remain in the East Bay to be distributed to indigent PWAs by the AIDS Emergency Fund. Anyone is welcome to walk and pledge any amount.

John Iversen
Executive Committee Member
HIV Services Planning Council, Oakland

Honest talk about the Haight needed

I am dismayed by recent letters in response to the issue raised by Arthur Evans about how unlivable the Upper Haight has become. Rather than discuss the merits of the issue, all three letters attacked Arthur in an unprincipled manner. It's flawed logic to conclude that a life-long progressive and hero of the queer movement must have become a reactionary when he dares to suggest that folks be held accountable for their disruptive and violent behavior. Why not reason instead that if Arthur Evans is sounding the alarm, a person with a proven track record for his commitment to justice and challenges to the powers that be, that it just might deserve a look-see?

But Arthur doesn't need me to defend him from jerks with ridiculous and untrue charges — like his books have made him rich. Yeah, right. If only that were the case, he'd have the option of moving, and not have to put up with being awakened in the middle of the night by frequent screaming outside of his window. It is to his credit that he raises in a principled manner this natty problem, and it pisses me off that some folks who fancy themselves progressives try to silence him with name calling.

The best "defense" of Arthur is to have an honest discussion of the most helpful community responses to this conflict. I always see situations like this as needing both long- and short-term solutions. In the long-term, we need to foster a healthier society where kids are raised to feel good about themselves and have empathy for other people. In the short-term, we should not have to suffer being terrorized in our own neighborhoods. Knee-jerk, pseudo-liberal, mean-spirited, shoot-the-messenger diatribes do not improve the quality of our lives.

Naphtali Offen
San Francisco

Do not like "queer" connotation

I just read an article in the Sunday, July 19, edition of the *Chronicle/Examiner* about this guy that invented Queer Beer. I do not like stereotyping, and this is the worst form of it I have ever seen. Phillip Feemster has a poor choice of words to use for the marketing of his product. In my opinion, the word "queer" is almost as bad as saying "faggot." I take offense of the use of either of these words, and will not ever buy his beer. I ask all gay patrons of bars, and bar owners, not to sell Queer Beer. We, as part of the gay community, deal with enough discrimination, hatred, and bigotry. We do not need to fuel the fire by accepting, and promoting Mr. Feemster's product. It now gives the straight community something else to laugh at, and make jokes about.

Scott Sproat
Walnut Creek

Enjoyed Beth Elliott

(The following letter was sent to columnist Beth Elliott.)

We very much enjoyed reading your article in the July 2, 1998 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter*. The persons behind the four co-signatures below have been ravenously (and somewhat guiltily) enjoying the same show every Sunday night and wondering, as any self-aware feminist lesbian might, what could the attraction be? Imagine our surprise when upon opening our gay weekly we find an article about *Sex in the City* by a lesbian! Our "household" is also addicted; perhaps we should have a potluck.

It was also fascinating to read your interpretation of the addiction. We have the entire span of lesbian butch-andro-femme represented in our little group. Besides Je, the rest of us are a little uncomfortable with, but no less fascinated by, such labels. All of us would like to hear more. We have also been develop-

ing our own theories on the attraction to the show, not the least of which includes the sexiness of the lead actress. Some of us find the show's finer qualities surpass gender, sexual orientation or label status while others find the feminist perspective on the dating game intriguing.

To close, we ask that you please write a weekly *Sex in the City* column and explore these issues further. If our two households are the only freak lezzies watching the show, then perhaps we should open a personal dialogue. Our compliments on a theme well expounded, and kudos for having your finger on the pulse of the lesbian mindset!

Nicole Mikulas
Joanne Chao
Sarah Stickle
Jei Africa
Oakland, CA

The Stonewall Project can help

I am writing to thank you for your coverage of my testimony on the epidemic of speed use in the queer communities at the recent HIV Prevention Planning Council meeting (*Bay Area Reporter* July 16). I was heartened to see the article on the front page given the severity of this problem which affects so many members of our community.

I also wanted to add that there now exists a new program called the Stonewall Project which is specifically designed to meet the needs of gay, bisexual, and transgender San Franciscans who want to deal with the use of methamphetamine. The Stonewall Project is a harm reduction program sponsored by the Division of Substance Abuse and Addiction Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry at UCSF/San Francisco General Hospital and funded by Community Substance Abuse Services of the city's Department of Public Health. As a harm reduction program, we offer services for people who want to talk about, deal with, and set their own goals relating to their use of crystal. There is no requirement that one be clean and sober or even want to be.

We are located at 3180 18th Street (at Folsom) and our phone number is (415) 502-1999. I encourage anyone is interested in more information about crystal or our program to call.

Again, thanks for the coverage and keep up the good work.

Michael D. Siever, Ph.D.
Director, Stonewall Project
San Francisco

City Hall dreamin'

Last night I dreamed that Angela Alioto had been elected mayor, and Tom Ammiano had become president of the Board of Supervisors. I awoke smiling, and also somewhat sexually aroused. Is this normal? One of my friends told me that it is a common occurrence among homosexuals who voted for Willie Brown.

Larry Robinson
San Francisco

High fives for youth collaboration

Our thanks to Cynthia Laird and to the *Bay Area Reporter* for the excellent coverage of the opening of Dimensions, Health Services for Queer and Questioning Youth. The front page coverage during the weekend of LYRIC's fantastic Young, Loud, and Proud conference allowed hundreds of youth to find out about this new and important service.

I want to clarify one point. This is not a HIFY (Health Initiatives for Youth) project. Rather, this project represents true community collaboration. Youth and adults came together to begin a planning process and worked together to create this great new service.

The San Francisco Community Health Network; the Department of Public Health; the liaison for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender health; and the staff at the Castro Mission Health Center have all provided leadership, commitment, and enthusiastic participation. We are lucky in this city to have public health professionals who care as much as these people do.

LYRIC, New Leaf, Special Programs for Youth, the Mission Neighborhood Health Center, and HIFY have all played critical roles in planning, staffing, and/or funding this effort. Many individuals and agencies have provided resources, time, expertise, and assistance. This has been a wonderful example of what can happen when we all work together as a community with the health and well-being of our youth as the common goal.

All lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth who are interested in comprehensive, high quality, and safe health care should come by any Thursday evening from 5 to 8 p.m. Adults who care about youth should share information with the young people in their lives.

Thanks again to Ms. Laird and the B.A.R.

Steven Tierney
Executive Director
Health Initiatives for Youth

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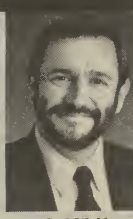
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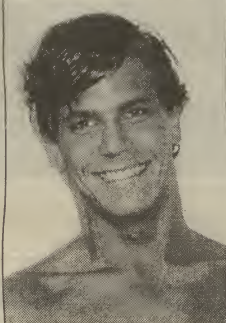
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Showtime original series to feature lesbians

by Don Romesburg,
GLAAD/SF media resource
center manager

This Saturday, August 1, two of Showtime's new original series will deal with sexual orientation, and both in innovative ways. *Linc's* is a dramatic comedy set in a Washington, D.C. bar and grill with a principally African-American clientele. In the episode, recurring character Rosalee (Martin's Tisha Campbell) transfers from her military base to a station near D.C. so she can be closer to home. Upon her return, she tells her father, Russell "Linc" Lincoln (the *X-Files*' Steven Williams), that she is questioning her sexual orientation. While he reacts initially with shock and disappointment, Linc later comes to understand that Rosalee needs his love and support. The episode discusses many of the stereotypes associated with the lesbian and gay community, and helps dispel the predominant myth that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people are not people of color. The series also stars Pam Grier (*Jackie Brown*), whose character encourages Linc to love and support his daughter.

On *Rude Awakening*, the network's new irreverent comedy starring Sherilyn Fenn (*Twin Peaks*), lesbians and same-sex experiences are presented simply as part of life. The sexually-charged premiere focuses on former Hollywood star Billie Frank (Fenn) and her sometimes funny, sometimes poignant life-struggles. At one point, Billie graphically retells her own hilarious same-sex experience in order to annoy her born again sister-in-law. And during a meeting at Addictions Anonymous (for her drinking problem), she reluctantly befriends Jackie (Rain Pryor) a kooky African-American lesbian with an even wackier girlfriend. *Rude Awakening* also stars Lynn Redgrave as Billie's mother.

While *Linc's* and *Rude Awakening* deal with the issues associated with sexual orientation differently, both have gracefully introduced Rosalee and Jackie into prominent ensemble casts. More significant, however, is Showtime's commitment to diversity by featuring questioning or openly lesbian women of color. For a number of years, television has only represented the LGBT community as being white individuals.

Please check out *Linc's* (10 p.m.) and *Rude Awakening* (11 p.m.) on Saturday, August 1 and then thank Showtime for reflecting the diversity of our community.

Contact: Peter Keramidas, Programming Senior Vice President, Showtime Networks, Inc., 1633 Broadway, 17th Floor, NY, NY 10019-6708.

Reggie White encounters limits of free speech

A July 15 ad in *USA Today's* sports section pictured Reggie White in his Green Bay Packers uniform. The headline read: "Toward an open debate on homosexual behavior." A large-type photo caption read: "In defense of free speech." Reporters thought

the defensive end might exercise those rights again after practice on Monday July 20. But the *Associated Press*' headline read: "Packers stop White from addressing media," and quoted White as saying that, "What me and Mike [Coach Mike Holmgren] talked about is between me and Mike." White said, "I mean, it don't make no sense for me to be telling you what me and Mike talked about." Holmgren canceled White's spontaneous group interview, saying it was in order to avoid training camp disruptions. In addition, White has been ordered not to appear in uniform in future ads. "Not a problem," said his agent, Bill Horn (not GLAAD's assistant entertainment media director). "Everybody knows who Reggie White is. So he doesn't have to be in uniform." Furthermore, in a letter of apology to the Human

Rights Campaign dated July 21, Packers President Bob Harlan wrote: "As an organization, we regret the use of our uniform in the advertisement. Please accept our apologies."

Please thank Harlan and Holmgren for insisting that the team image not be used for homophobic purposes.

Contact: Bob Harlan, President, Green Bay Packers, P.O. Box 10628, Green Bay, WI 54307, fax: (920) 496-5738; Mike Holmgren, Coach, Green Bay Packers, P.O. Box 10628, Green Bay, WI 54307, fax: (920) 496-7753.

Buzzword bonanza

In its July 20 "Inside Politics" column, the *Washington Times* manages to squeeze pejorative descriptions of gay men into one three-sentence item about James Hormel's stalled ambassadorial nomination. In the first sentence, columnist Greg Pierce calls Hormel an "avowed homosexual." In the last, he says conservative Republicans describe Hormel as advocating "special rights" for homosexuals. These are the threadbare, inaccurate phrases anti-gay opponents still trot out when attempting to discredit the struggle for equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals.

Please share with the *Washington Times* your perceptions of how such disparaging and misleading phrases continue to foster a climate of intolerance.

Contact: Bill Giles, Managing Editor, *Washington Times*, 3600 New York Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20002, fax: (202) 526-7583

Getting it right

Law enforcement officers made a sweep of "cruising" parks in socially conservative Citrus County, Florida recently, and charged several gay men in connection with having sex in public. In an extensive July 19 article, the *St. Petersburg Times* presents a wide variety of viewpoints on this controversial topic, from a gay man who says, "Really, those are the only places you can meet people," to County Sheriff Sergeant Dave DeCarlo's statement that "Community members want something done and we're in the business of getting that done." The report quotes at length from

sources ranging from the mayor's wife, a local P-FLAG member who worries that the public arrests will distort the public view of gay men, to a gay man who spent a year in jail after exposing himself to an undercover officer.

Reporter William Yardley did think to ask if deputies would arrest a woman offering free sex to an undercover officer. However, the story did not report whether county arrest records indicate equal resources have been expended enforcing against public sex by heterosexual couples in parks.

Please thank the *St. Petersburg Times* for their informative presentation of the many complex issues surrounding this issue. Contact: Neil Brown, Managing Editor, *St. Petersburg Times*, P.O. Box 1121, St. Petersburg, FL 33731, fax: (813) 893-8675, e-mail: letters@spetimes.com

Trans across America

In its July 20 issue, *Time* magazine becomes one of the first national publications to present an extensive article on transgender individuals. "No one knows how many transgendered people exist," *Time* states, "but at least 25,000 Americans have undergone sex-reassignment surgery, and the dozen or so North American doctors who perform it have long waiting lists." The article explains that a person is transgendered if that person's mental gender — his or her "deepest awareness" of identity — "doesn't correspond to the parts" he or she was born with. Writing of one male-to-female transgender, it says she "does plan to undergo what doctors call 'sex-reassignment surgery' when she and her beau David can afford it; it will cost about as much as their new Nissan." The article offers its own gender balance as well, including interviews with both male-to-female and female-to-male transgenders.

This unique article realizes the significance of the community's smallest victories: "Transgenders faced practical obstacles to organizing themselves separately. Most couldn't simply dress as a member of the opposite sex without getting beaten or fired."

The writing is non-sensational and highly informative. It is an accurate and thorough examination of the transgender community, its triumphs and challenges.

Please thank *Time* magazine for sensitively portraying the challenges facing transgender people without dipping into sensationalism.

Contact: Walter Isaacson, Managing Editor, *Time* Magazine, Time-Life Building, 1271 Avenue of the Americas, NY, NY 10020, fax: (212) 522-8949, e-mail: Letters@time.com (include phone and address with all correspondence) ▼

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POLITICS

High stakes in the governor's race

by Wayne Friday

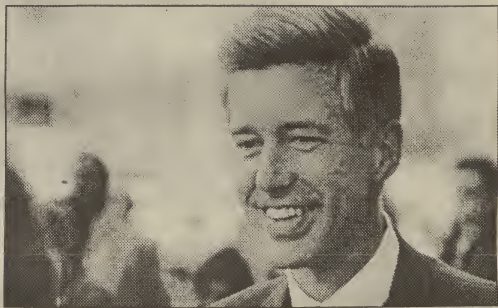
California's race for governor, thought by many to currently be rated a tossup, is seen across the country as more than a choice between Democrat **Gray Davis** and Republican **Dan Lungren**. The November race to replace **Pete Wilson** has become a showcase for prospective candidates, Democrats and Republicans alike, in the 2000 White House campaign, and leaders of both major parties say that control of the House of Representatives after the next presidential contest may depend on whether a Democrat or Republican is governor to help redraw California's political boundaries after the 2000 census.

It is because of the coming reapportionment after the next census that who is sitting in the governor's office two years from now is important to both parties. Republicans can be expected to raise millions of dollars in campaign funds for Lungren between now and November in hopes of keeping the statehouse in GOP control. They fear that if Democrats continue to hold their majority in the California Legislature, they would join forces with a Democratic governor and adopt a new map of political districts that could substantially weaken Republican

chances. If a Republican were to be sitting in the governor's office, he could modify the Democratic Legislature's redistricting plan or force a compromise on the new districts.

It is definitely an advantage to have a governor with veto powers in office when the reapportionment comes up after the 2000 census. After the 1980 census, Sacramento Democrats adopted a map of congressional districts that gave their party a 28 to 17 edge in the California delegation. Current political strategists suggest that a Democratic reapportionment map could give the party as much as a 10-seat edge in the 54-member California House delegation, which now has 29 Democrats and 23 Republicans. If control of the House remains close for the next two years, that might be long enough to give Democrats a majority in the House in the near future. Nationally, the California reapportionment stakes are higher for Democrats because Republicans currently hold 32 of the nation's 52 governors seats.

Control of both the U.S. Congress and the White House rests in big part on who becomes California's next governor. For this reason, voters in the state will be seeing a lot of **Bill Clinton**, **Al Gore**, and other big-name Democrat's here campaigning for Davis in the next three months. Likewise, Lungren's campaign will be relying heavily on the likes of congressional heavies like Senate Majority Leader **Trent Lott**, House Speaker **Newt Gingrich**, and other GOP luminaries like former President **George Bush**, **Jack Kemp**, and **Bob Dole** to rally the party faithful. Too much rests on the outcome of the Davis-Lungren race to expect otherwise. Po-



Lt. Governor Gray Davis

litically, both are good candidates (though I believe it is time, after 16 long years, to kick the Republicans out of the governor's office). Clearly, I hope that Davis will be the next governor of California. Lungren would spell disaster for the gay and lesbian community.

Politics and people

I must comment on the backbone—or lack of one—of one of our leaders in City Hall. Board of

Supervisors President **Barbara Kaufman** said that she was "troubled" by the proposed Laguna Honda bond measure for reasons that she mentioned halfheartedly, and was likely to campaign against it. However, Kaufman, apparently afraid to oppose

the mayor on the idea, voted for putting the measure on the ballot at the board's first consideration of it on July 23. (The board voted July 28 to table the proposal, so it will not be on the ballot.)

When asked why she first voted in favor if she opposed it, the politically brave Kaufman told the *San Francisco Examiner*, "this is the only way to do it; let the voters say you're nuts." Supervisor Kaufman has no guts politically. Kaufman told reporters recently she wouldn't run for mayor (a rumor was floating that she was thinking of it) because she agreed with Mayor **Willie Brown** "85 percent of the time."

Let's hope **Tom Ammiano**, as the likely next president of the board, will be a refreshing change after Kaufman; at least the guy has a mind of his own, some sorely needed political independence, and the guts to stand up for what he believes in.

Two powerful Republican District Attorneys, **Mike Mullins** of Sonoma County and **Peter Smith** of Calaveras, both backers of Orange County DA **Mike Capizzi**, the loser in last month's GOP primary, have endorsed Democrat **Bill Lockyer** for state attorney general over GOP nominee **Dave Stirling**; look for Capizzi to follow.

The "surprise" announcement last week by U.S. Attorney **Michael Yamaguchi** that he was resigning was no surprise to many who knew that the controversial attorney was quietly being squeezed out by the local federal bench and his bosses in the U.S. Justice Department.

In Detroit, many in the gay community who helped elect Mayor **Dennis Archer**, an African-American, are very un-

happy; some black gays and lesbians say that the mayor's refusal to write a letter of support for "Hotter than July," a week-long gay celebration, is symbolic of larger rifts in the black and gay communities.

Senator Lott is still telling reporters in D.C. that a senate vote on San Francisco's **James Hormel** to be the nation's first openly gay ambassador (to Luxembourg) is "not practical," using the excuse that time is running out in this session of Congress. Lott and his homophobic GOP allies are well aware that if he allowed a vote, Senator **Dianne Feinstein** has the votes needed for Hormel's confirmation.

The Reverend **Jesse Jackson** told one close friend I know in San Francisco that he'll be a candidate for President in 2000 (but, please, Jesse, not another campaign of those endless sound bite jingles you do so well).

One of Davis's Democratic opponent's in last month's primary, Representative **Jane Harman**, making good on her promise of support, put together a reception in her D.C. home recently (and plans two more at her California home) and raised a cool \$500,000. **Al Checchi** also mouthed support for Davis, but the Democratic nominee is still waiting for the multimillionaire to come through.

Incidentally, there is reportedly a lot of griping in the Lungren camp that lame duck Wilson seems unwilling to "go quietly, step aside and let Dan have the limelight" he will need to defeat Davis, thought to be slightly ahead in the race.

So why would California lawmakers be in any hurry to settle the lingering state budget crisis that currently grips Sacramento when they each get \$119 a day (tax-free) per diem (that's \$833 per week, tax-free, folks) in addition to their annual salary of \$78,624, free cars, gasoline credit cards, etc. — don't look for a settlement too soon.

In D.C., Senator **Orrin Hatch** (R-Utah) told CNN's **Larry King** that he is thinking "seriously" about running in the GOP 2000 sweepstakes. Hatch, an ultra-conservative, was best man at Senator **Ted Kennedy's** wedding a couple of years ago and says Kennedy is his "best friend in the U.S. senate."

Running as a team? Mayor Brown, putting together his reelection plan in a big way, recently endorsed District Attorney **Terence Hallinan's** re-election next year as well; Brown recently told the *Bay Area Reporter* that "Hallinan has been a good DA for San Francisco and deserves to be re-elected." ▼

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Kisses on the rocks, with a twist



Lesbian activists Sonja Mackenzie (left) and her partner, Christine Hwang (second from left) confront Blondie DeWald (right) at Blondie's bar on Valencia Street on Friday, July 24. Some 60 dykes and their friends converged on the bar to stage a kiss-in. They were protesting the establishment's expulsion earlier this month of women who were smooching at the bar on a non-lesbian night. The bar's official dyke night, "Red," takes place each Sunday. On other nights, women must take their kisses elsewhere.

Priestess duty

by Beth Elliott

Which opens with a mostly un-priestessly moan of Lordy, Lordy, Lordy ... now the religious conservatives have taken to placing full-page ads claiming their low-rent version of Christianity can "cure" homosexuality. I guess they figured if all those miracle diet pills (Lose weight without exercising! Enjoy all you want of your favorite foods!) and facelifts in a jar can separate the zebs from their money, so can their "ex-gay" snake oil.

For those of you cringing because you sense a clipping is in the mail from some clueless relative, here's a reminder that this stuff is bad science. (It's bad religion, too; would you buy a moral assessment of your sexual orientation from a book that says, "Slaves, be obedient to your masters"? I didn't think so.) Even if science never does state definitively that there's a gay genetic constellation, we do know that people fall in love and/or have sex with people of their own gender not because they're heterosexuals looking for off-beat kicks, but because that's to whom they're attracted.

I think these jokers actually used the word "identity" in the place of their traditional favorite "lifestyle" — with the same result of looking absolutely absurd. Okay, let's say someone ditches their gay "identity," stops living the gay "lifestyle," and makes an attempt to act heterosexual. That doesn't mean they'll be able to really put their heart into it. As a matter of fact, they face a lifetime of having to fight down all kinds of stray thoughts; escapees from "ex-gay" programs often say their wake-up call was seeing how artificial these

people's new-found heterosexuality actually was, and how homosexually oriented they all remained.

Sure, you can adopt a heterosexual identity and lifestyle if you choose, and settle for a life that will always have something missing ... like authentic intimacy with someone to whom you actually might have a gut-level attraction instead of just a misplaced concept of moral duty. Lesbianism is not an "identity," it's not a "lifestyle" ... it's an orientation! (Get a clue, fish heads.)

Actually, that advice should probably be directed at my fellow queers as well. Anyone else out there tired of hearing and reading such things as "She discovered her lesbian identity" when what's really meant is "She figured out she likes girls"? Or

"So and so is a member of the lesbian community" when what's really meant is "So and so likes girls"? Yeah, me too. It's not an identity, it's not a membership ... it's an orientation! (Get a clue, all of y'all.)

Personally, I think there's a word for going against one's orientation in order to try to have one kind of relationship out of a sense of duty, while shunning opportunities to have another kind of relationship that would actually bring out one's deepest feelings, passions, loyalty and caring, and give one a peek into the mysteries of the universe (i.e., "the heart of God"). That word would be ... "blasphemy." And you may quote me.

One Seismic Fits All Dept.: On a more positive spiritual note, I had the big Volcano Girl fun whipped out for my face up at Roundtop the other weekend. In

the center of one of the labyrinths, I saw two scrunchies left as offerings. In other words, someone else must have had similar inspiration about schlepping about on volcanic terrains with her ponytail swinging as she strides along! More than that, one of the scrunchies, the blue velvet one, just called out to me ... and I realized this was all a happy bit of synchronicity offering major validation for the Volcano Girl spiritual path.

For one thing, I had found indisputable evidence for the existence of other Volcano Girls (Sibley Volcanic Preserve siblings?). And blue has been, well, kind of post-Kathmandu ("school colors" (my visualizing an energy link between the Great Stupa at Boudanath

there, and Shasta and Roundtop here, turned out to be a hit). It all tied in with too many facets of the origins of Volcano Girlhood (my finding my Volcano Girl identity? My discovering my membership in the Volcano Girl community? Naaaaahhh!), and it felt like an exchange for objects I've left in Roundtop labyrinths for others to enjoy and take ... After all, "there ain't no such thing as a free scrunch!" I concluded it was a gift, specifically my very own Official Tara Volcano Girl Scrunchy.

And that evening, after "Sex in the City," I found myself in the right time, place and state of mind for one housemate to kind of lose it in good company. She'd had a phone call to a parent blow up in her face, which brought up a lot of sorrow for her. I found myself

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Life gotcha down?



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SCIENCE

Obesity: A growing problem among dykes

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

While being interviewed on the *Oprah Winfrey* show a few years ago, I was distracted by a group of large women in the front row of the audience. They were wearing T-shirts emblazoned with the slogan: I Am A Fat Dyke. I kept thinking to myself: Proud of being a dyke? That I can understand. But proud of being fat?

On the face of it, being fat is very unhealthy. As a scientist, I can't help reciting statistics — these come from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's 16-year study of 115,000 female nurses. The study found the lowest risk of death among women with a "body mass index" of less than 19 — that's a weight of less than 110 pounds for a woman 5 feet 4 inches tall, and less than 125 pounds for a woman 5 feet 8 inches tall. Compared with them, women with a body mass index of 29 (170 pounds for the 5 feet 4 inches woman, 190 pounds for the 5 feet 8 inches woman) were at least twice as likely to die within the study period. Those who didn't die were far more likely to suffer from heart disease, breast cancer, and other serious conditions.

In the 1987 National Lesbian Healthcare Survey, obesity was the most commonly reported health problem, and two-thirds of the lesbians surveyed said that they over-ate sometimes or frequently. So what's to be proud of? Wouldn't shedding some weight be more of a reason to celebrate?

Yet the story isn't that simple. For one thing, there's a strong inherited element to body weight. Having obese relatives makes you more likely to be obese yourself, even if you were adopted out of

your birth family at birth. In a culture such as ours, where most people have ready access to high-calorie food, genetic differences are the main reason why some people end up fatter than others. In fact, genes have a stronger influence on a woman's weight than they do on her sexual orientation. So, if part of the reason gay people demand respect is their sense that being gay is a matter of inborn identity, rather than a cho-

sen lifestyle, shouldn't we also respect fat people for the same reason?

Another issue has to do with sexual politics. One reason why heterosexual women want to be thin is to make themselves more attractive to men. But women (including lesbians) don't focus on

appearance as a criterion of sexual attractiveness to the same degree that men do, so it's not as important for a lesbian to be thin. Being fat may even be experienced as a liberation from male-imposed standards of beauty. This theme was strongly articulated by feminists in the 1970s, and is still a powerful idea among some lesbians today.

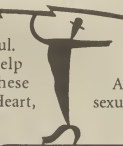
There are also serious philosophical difficulties with labeling a condition such as obesity "pathological," even if it is associated with increased risk of heart disease, breast cancer, and so on. Male homosexuality, in our present culture, is strongly associated with an increased risk of death from AIDS, but we don't tell gay men to become straight for that reason, or even to stop having gay sex. Nor do we tell transgender men or women to live in accordance with their anatomical sex. That's because we recognize how important the expression of a person's core identity is, regardless of the practical advantages or disad-

vantages that that expression may bring. In other words, "pathology" involves a value judgment that we cannot easily make on other people's behalf, however many statistics we can quote.

Finally, it's worth mentioning that losing weight isn't necessarily beneficial. In a large 1995 study from the Centers for Disease Control, women who had obesity-related health problems greatly reduced their risk of death if they intentionally lost weight. But obese women who were otherwise healthy didn't reduce their risk of death by losing weight. One possible explanation is that some women are biologically equipped to deal successfully with a high body weight. Some studies suggest that people whose body fat is in their lower body (buttocks and thighs) are more likely to remain healthy than people whose fat is mostly in their belly and upper body. ▼

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of *The Sexual Brain*, *City of Friends* (with Elisabeth Jonas), and *Queer Science* (MIT Press, 1996), and the biomedical thriller *Albrick's Gold* (Richard Kasak Books, 1997). He may be reached at SLeVay@aol.com. For more *Queer Science* columns, visit www.gay.net.

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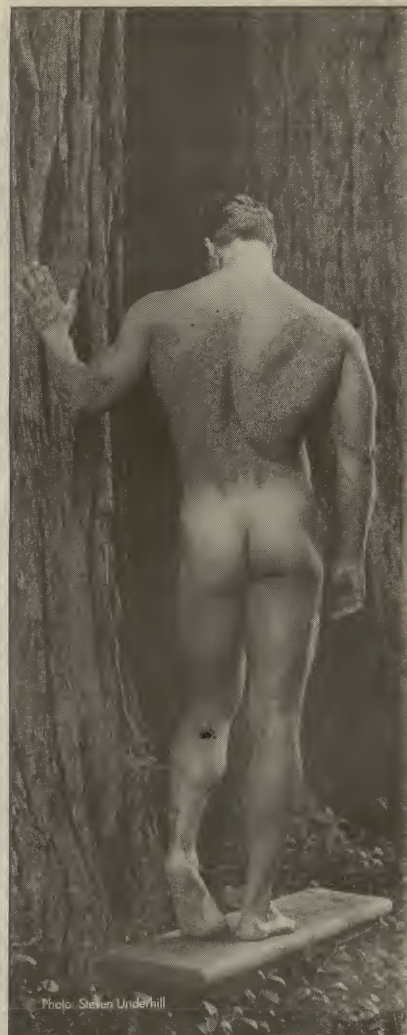
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NLGHA conference promotes queer health

by Liz Highleyman

An estimated 1,000 participants gathered in San Francisco this week for the 20th annual National Lesbian and Gay Health Association (NLGHA) Conference. The meeting brought together healthcare providers, researchers, health advocates and interested members of the community to discuss a wide range of issues related to the health of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people.

The event started with pre-conference institutes on Saturday, July 25 devoted to bisexuality and HIV prevention, gay male HIV prevention in a post-AIDS era, LGBT youth, and diversity issues. For the first time the conference sponsored an institute and a track of workshops devoted to transgender health concerns.

The plenary on Sunday, July 26 was devoted to the history of the NLGHA. The organization is a nonprofit network of individual healthcare professionals, community health centers, clinics, and programs focusing on queer health. NLGHA President Dr. Jeffrey Akman noted that the history of gay and lesbian healthcare is less than 30 years old, and began in the 1970s with venereal disease clinics for men and women's self-help health groups. NLGHA, originally known as the National Gay Health Coalition and then as the National Gay Health Education Foundation, was formed in 1976.

NLGHA has spawned several

gay and lesbian health and HIV/AIDS organizations, including the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA) which grew out of the 1983 Denver conference. That event also saw the development of the Denver Principles, which presenter Michael Shernoff called "the cornerstone of healthcare empowerment in America."

The NLGHA confabs have had their share of colorful moments and headline-making. The first "Hot, Horny and Healthy" workshop on eroticizing safer sex took place in 1986 and became a national model. The 1989 conference, also held in San Francisco, made headlines when Hans Paul Verhof was denied entry into the United States to attend the conference because he had AIDS, as did the 1991 New Orleans conference when the Baptist convention tried to stop federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funding for the event. Also in 1991, a group of lesbians stormed the stage demanding more attention to women's health issues.

Keynote speaker Lorri Jean of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center noted that HIV/AIDS has at times overshadowed other important gay and lesbian health issues including cancer, substance abuse, mental health, and domestic violence. However, AIDS has left the community "so much better prepared" to deal with other health concerns, because "instead of waiting for the system to provide for us, we did what we had to do to take care of ourselves."

The conference covered more

than 100 topics including: critical issues in lesbian health, gay widowers, traditional Chinese medicine, leather health, party drugs, same-sex domestic violence, HIV prevention for male-to-female transgender sex workers, hepatitis, barebacking, harm reduction, HIV post-exposure prophylaxis, youth suicide, circuit party culture, male-on-male rape, lesbian parenting, breast cancer, AIDS in the deaf community, sex and queer liberation, and humor and stress management. The 16th National AIDS/HIV Forum on Monday, July 27 brought together a group of panelists to present updates from the World AIDS Conference held in Geneva earlier this month.

A plenary on Tuesday, July 28 entitled "Dying for Sex" focused on issues of substance abuse and sexual compulsivity and addiction. Dr. Marshall Forestein of the Fenway Community Health Center in Boston discussed whether excessive sexual behavior was best seen as an obsessive-compulsive disorder, an addiction, or something more complex. He emphasized that the important thing is not how much sex one has, but whether it negatively impacts other areas of one's life (for example spending too much money on calls to 900 phone sex lines or being fired from a job for repeatedly cruising porn sites on the Internet). Dr. Michael Gorman discussed the epidemic of methamphetamine use, which he believes is driving the HIV epidemic among young gay men on

next page ►

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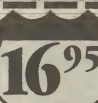


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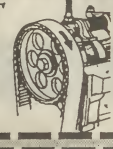
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Religious leaders speak

by Bob Roehr

The gay and lesbian religious community responded to the stepped up media assault by religious homophobes at a Washington news conference Friday, July 24. It came during a two-day National Religious Leadership Roundtable that brought together more than 30 such leaders. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) organized this first-ever gathering.

"We share with each other a passionate commitment to defend and promote the inherent worth and dignity of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people, to proclaim loudly that we are all God's people, worthy of God's love, acceptance, and blessing," said the Reverend Meg Riley. The director of the office for Faith in Action of the Unitarian Universalist Association added, "We have been too frequently silent about this commitment. Many of us have been too busy ministering to those in pain because of religion being used against them as a weapon."

"I speak here today both as a gay man and a Jew, a member of two groups that share an unfortunate history of stigmatization as sinners, as deviants, as other," said Lee Walzer, vice president of the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.

"As Jews, we too have been told that God does not hear our prayers. We too have been told that God does not love us as we are. We too have been the target of conversion campaigns, made in the name of love and compassion for us. We too have seen our faith called a stubborn, rebellious choice that must be shed in order

to go to heaven. Remove the words 'gay' and 'lesbian' from last week's advertisements and substitute 'Jew.' It is clear why we must speak out," Walzer added.

He said that the three main branches of Judaism, representing over 90 percent of American Jewry, "support full civil equality" for gays.

Dr. Marjorie J. Hill was "appalled and saddened by the misguided and flagrantly inaccurate reports" of the ad campaign. She is national president of the Unity Fellowship Church Movement and for 20 years a practicing psychologist.

She quoted from an American Psychological Association statement: "Humans cannot choose to be straight or gay... Psychologists do not consider sexual orientation to be a conscious choice that can be voluntarily made." She concluded by urging people to "choose science over ignorance, freedom over fear, and acceptance over bias."

The Reverend Kwabena Rainey Cheeks, pastor of the Inner Light Unity Fellowship Church in Washington, echoed that sentiment. "Religious people told my ancestors that they could not be free. Once religious people told women that they could not be free," said Cheeks. "Now the same religious people here in America are trying to say that because they don't agree with who someone may dare to love, that they shall not be free. I truly understand that no one is free until we are all free."

"I can no more change the color of my sexual orientation than I can change the color of my skin," added Cheeks. "We are here to tell anyone that they do not have to agree with our opinion, but let us remember, it is their

opinion and not the gospel. So remember, God is love and love is for everyone."

The Reverend Mel White, minister of justice for the Metropolitan Community Churches, drew upon his own 35 year struggle to deny his homosexuality. He called ex-gay therapies "about as useful as leeches and lobotomies to the men and women who struggle desperately" with their sexuality.

White blamed James Dobson, Gary Bauer and others for the anti-gay attack "to mold public opinion in their favor" just four months before the congressional elections.

The ubiquity of the anti-gay movement materialized when "ex-gay" Anthony Falzarano, director of Transformation Christian Ministries, stood up to challenge the speakers as being "false" and on the "fringe," not representing their denominations. One by one the speakers came to the podium and refuted the charges. They outlined basic policies of inclusion and admitted to ongoing controversies over issues such as ordination of gay and lesbian clergy and same-sex marriage.

"You are ex-gay? God bless you," said Cheeks. "The God I serve is large enough to embrace us all. So we are not trying to tell you, no, don't be an ex-gay. Bless you. But for those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning, God bless us. If your God is not large enough to make someone gay or lesbian, my God is. My God is so big that it embraces all of us." ▼

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NLGA

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the West Coast. Laura Petrack of New Leaf noted that the primary issue for lesbians may be unhealthy relationship "addictions" rather than the sex "addictions" more often seen among gay men.

At Tuesday's Paul Paroski Memorial Awards Luncheon, greetings were presented from President Clinton, Assemblywoman Carole Migden, and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Mark Leno, acting as mayor for the day, proclaimed it National Lesbian and Gay Health Association Day in

the city. Awards were presented to several leaders who have been instrumental in shaping the LGBT health movement. Dr. Richard Isay, an author, professor of psychiatry at Cornell University, and past vice president of NLGA received the Winfield Scott Award. The Community Service Award was presented to the L.A. Center's Jean. Cornelius Baker of NAPWA was honored with the Diego Lopez Award. The San Francisco Host Committee Award was given to Greg Merrill, director of client and advocacy services at Community United Against Violence (CUAV), and the San Francisco Transgender Community Task Force. ▼

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Foray into international diplomacy

Leno lobbies Romanian president

by Cynthia Laird

San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno used the opportunity of a visiting foreign dignitary July 19 to lobby for the freedom of imprisoned lesbians and gays in Romania and came away with what activists call a good first step.

Leno met for several minutes with Romanian President Emil Constantinescu, who was in the

city attending a conference, and pressured the head of state to release approximately 130 homosexuals imprisoned under the country's infamous Article 200 of the penal code.

"It was too good of an opportunity to pass up," said Leno. "The chance for gay elected officials to communicate with a head of state regarding a draconian, virulently anti-gay law doesn't happen everyday."

On Monday, July 27, Leno in-

troduced a resolution at the Board of Supervisors meeting urging the Romanian government to take action regarding releasing the prisoners and overturning the law.

At the recent reception, Leno spoke through an interpreter to the Romanian president to convey his message that a truly free society that claims to be a democracy must have respect for all its citizens; he urged Constantinescu to have the political will to make specific changes to alleviate the suffering of gays and lesbians.

"He assured me he's already pardoned those incarcerated and of his intent to abolish Article 200," Leno told the Bay Area Reporter. The supervisor noted that while the pardon is a great initial action, Constantinescu has yet to release the prisoners, something he hopes will happen.

So do activists with the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC), which brought the issue to Leno's attention.

"A pardon is very different from being released," said Julie Dorf, IGLHRC executive director.

The activist organization stated that under Romania's so-called new democracy, one group — gays and lesbians — still do not share in the benefits of democracy. "Article 200 of the Romanian penal code prohibits homosexual acts 'which cause public scandal.' Anyone advocating for gays' and lesbians' rights could face one to five years imprisonment. Gays and lesbians have no rights to free speech or free association," IGLHRC stated.

The organization added that in June, the Romanian Parliament voted against eliminating these laws, with a member of the president's own party saying "It would be immoral to legalize homosexual sex ... We want a healthy nation." It was apparently that attitude that Leno was trying to change when he met with Constantinescu.

Since being elected in 1996,



Romanian President Emil Constantinescu

Constantinescu has taken some private steps to help the situation facing lesbians and gays in his country, Dorf said. Under pressure from human rights organizations, he pardoned Mariana Cetiner in March; she was serving a three-year prison term for simply asking another woman to have sex with her.

The prisoners who were pardoned for the sodomy convictions are still being detained under charges such as resisting arrest.

Leno's lobbying preceded a full-scale leafleting effort by IGLHRC at the Westin St. Francis Hotel that occurred July 20. About eight people organized by the group protested at the New Democracy Conference that was attended by an estimated 400 people, including Constantinescu, his staff, and security officers. The protesters were forced to leave by police while they were distributing the flyers.

"Mr. President, we ask you to use your moral authority to take a public stand against Article 200," IGLHRC's flyer stated. "Say plainly that gays and lesbians are fellow citizens who deserve equal rights. Denying them their freedom is not 'new democracy,' it is

old authoritarianism."

A glossy booklet touting Romania proudly describes the country as having "rich and diverse cultural spaces," and noted that the fall of communism in 1989 marked "...for Romania, the beginning of the rebuilding of its democratic institutions."

Dorf underscored the importance of elected officials, especially gays and lesbians, and American citizens contacting foreign governments to push for the release of imprisoned homosexuals and protest the heinous laws. She said that communication from U.S. citizens, when solicited by activists within the affected country such as the current case with Romania, are given extraordinary credibility by government officials.

Leno and Dorf urged interested people to contact IGLHRC and learn about their letter writing campaign to Romania and other countries, as well as membership and volunteer opportunities with the organization. ▼

IGLHRC can be reached at (415) 255-8680 or visit the website at www.iglhrc.org

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New church to serve queers in Vallejo

by Vicky Kolakowski

Vallejo lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Christians will have a new resource as Our Lady of Guadalupe Ecumenical Catholic Church begins worship and bible study this weekend.

The church's pastor, Father Leland Somers, will officiate at the first worship service this Sunday, August 2 at 6 p.m. On Tuesday,

August 4 at 7 p.m., they will begin a series of bible studies on "Recovering Our Queer Bible Stories." Somers says that both services and studies may be held outdoors if weather permits.

The Ecumenical Catholic Church is a small denomination which welcomes everyone without regard to sexual orientation. Their worship service liturgy is rooted in the liturgical practices of the Roman Catholic, Episcopal and Lutheran

traditions. The denomination describes itself as Christian, Christ-centered, ecumenical, catholic, evangelical and liturgical. ▼

For more information and service locations, call Somers at (707) 558-0233, e-mail at lsome@pipeline.com or check out the church's website at <http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Village/9104>.

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■ New NIH research showed people taking CRIVAN in triple therapy lived longer and experienced fewer opportunistic infections.

- Recent year-long research conducted by the National Institutes of Health (Protocol ACTG 320) studied over 1,000 patients and confirmed results from another study.
- The group of patients receiving CRIVAN along with 3TC and AZT achieved a reduction in deaths and AIDS-defining illnesses over those taking 3TC and AZT alone. This reduction was significant enough for the NIH to recommend the study be stopped, so that all participants could benefit from the findings. Because the study was ended early, there was insufficient data to determine the statistical impact of CRIVAN on survival.

■ CRIVAN in triple therapy continues to hold serum viral load down below the limit of detection at the one year mark.

- In a separate, ongoing landmark study, over 90% of the 31 patients receiving CRIVAN, AZT, and 3TC reduced their HIV serum viral load below the limit of detection after 24 weeks (as measured by available tests; the virus may still be present in other organ systems).
- Importantly, the limited number of patients who chose to stay with the study for longer periods of time maintained these results through the one year mark.

■ CRIVAN is generally well tolerated.

- CRIVAN can be taken with a light meal or on an empty stomach. There are side effects associated with protease inhibitors in general and CRIVAN in particular. Some patients treated with CRIVAN may develop kidney stones. For some, this can lead to more severe kidney problems including kidney failure. Drinking at least 6 glasses of water each day may help reduce the chance of forming a kidney stone. Other side effects reported include rapid breakdown of red blood cells and liver problems. There are some common medications and AIDS-related medications you should not take with CRIVAN. Discuss all medications you are taking or plan to take with your doctor.
- As with other protease inhibitors, increased bleeding in some patients with hemophilia and increased blood sugar levels or diabetes have been reported. Please read the following page for detailed information on side effects and dosing.

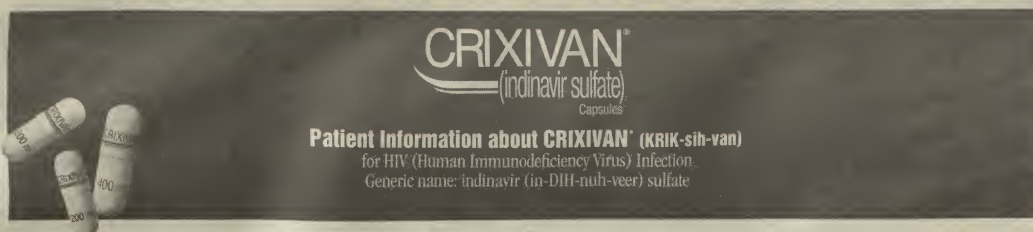
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CRIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIVAN can help reduce the chance of illnesses and death associated with HIV. CRIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4T-cell count. Some patients may not experience these effects. CRIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS.



Please read this information before you start taking CRIXIVAN. Also, you should read the information included with CRIXIVAN each time you receive your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this information does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss CRIXIVAN when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when using CRIXIVAN and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

What is CRIXIVAN?

CRIXIVAN is an oral capsule used for the treatment of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). CRIXIVAN is a type of HIV drug called a protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor.

How does CRIXIVAN work?

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

CRIXIVAN is usually prescribed with other anti-HIV drugs such as ZDV (also called AZT), 3TC, ddI, ddC, or d4T. CRIXIVAN works differently from these other anti-HIV drugs. Talk with your doctor about how you should take CRIXIVAN.

CRIXIVAN has been studied in adults. The safety and effectiveness of CRIXIVAN in children and adolescents have not been established.

How should I take CRIXIVAN?

There are six important things you must do to help you benefit from CRIXIVAN:

1. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every day as prescribed by your doctor.** Continue taking CRIXIVAN unless your doctor tells you to stop. Take the exact amount of CRIXIVAN that your doctor tells you to take, right from the very start. To help make sure you will benefit from CRIXIVAN, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays." If you don't take CRIXIVAN as prescribed, the activity of CRIXIVAN may be reduced (due to resistance).
2. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, every day.** It may be easier to remember to take CRIXIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIXIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
3. **If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.** However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIXIVAN at any one time.
4. **Take CRIXIVAN with water.** You can also take CRIXIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
5. **Ideally, take each dose of CRIXIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal.** Or you can take CRIXIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include:
 - dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want)
 - corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar
 Do not take CRIXIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIXIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIXIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.
6. **It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) throughout the day, every day.** CRIXIVAN can cause kidney stones. Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Does CRIXIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking CRIXIVAN may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important for you to remain under the care of a doctor. Although CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses, including death, associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

Does CRIXIVAN reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

CRIXIVAN has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should not take CRIXIVAN?

Do not take CRIXIVAN if you have had a serious allergic reaction to CRIXIVAN or any of its components.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIXIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIXIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
- You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIXIVAN. Also talk to your doctor if you have:
- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Diabetes
- Hemophilia

Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines.

Can CRIXIVAN be taken with other medications?*

Drugs you should not take with CRIXIVAN:

SELDANE® (terfenadine)	HISMANAL® (astemizole)
VERSED® (midazolam)	HALCION® (triazolam)
PROPLUSID® (cisapride)	Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

Taking CRIXIVAN with the above medications could result in serious or life-threatening problems (such as irregular heartbeat or excessive sleepiness).

In addition, you should not take CRIXIVAN with rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.

Drugs you can take with CRIXIVAN include:

RETROVIR® (zidovudine, ZDV also called AZT)	BIAXIN® (clarithromycin)
TAGAMET® (cimetidine)	isoniazid (INH)
DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole)	ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive)

EPIVIR™ (lamivudine, 3TC)

BACTRIM®/SEPTA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)

VIDEX® (didanosine, ddI) — If you take CRIXIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart.

MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIXIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both

the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIXIVAN.

NIZORAL® (ketoconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with NIZORAL®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of CRIXIVAN?

Like all prescription drugs, CRIXIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIXIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this page alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had rapid breakdown of red blood cells (hemolytic anemia) which in some cases was severe or resulted in death.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had liver problems including liver failure and death. Some patients had other illnesses or were taking other drugs. It is uncertain if CRIXIVAN caused these liver problems.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors. In some of these patients, this led to ketoacidosis, a serious condition caused by poorly controlled blood sugar. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients required adjustments to their diabetes medication. Others needed new diabetes medication.

In some patients with hemophilia, increased bleeding has been reported.

Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of patients. Usually, this finding has not been associated with liver problems. However, on rare occasions, a person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, flank pain, feeling unwell, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, loss of appetite, dry mouth, back pain, headache, trouble sleeping, dizziness, taste changes, rash, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat.

Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

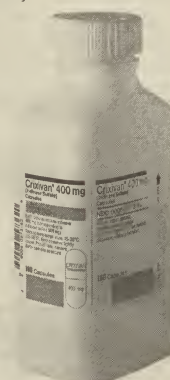
Marketing Experience

Other side effects reported since CRIXIVAN has been marketed include: abdominal swelling; inflammation of the kidneys; increased fat appearing in areas such as the neck, abdomen, and back; change in skin color; severe skin reactions; hair loss; crystals in the urine; and allergic reactions.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

How should I store CRIXIVAN capsules?

- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules in the bottle they came in and at room temperature (59°F-86°F).
- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules dry by leaving the small desiccant "pillow" in the bottle. Keep the bottle closed.



This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep CRIXIVAN and all medicines out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

* This provides a summary of information about CRIXIVAN. If you have any questions or concerns about either CRIXIVAN or HIV, talk to your doctor.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Lee, Congressional Black Caucus visit Baltimore AIDS clinics

by Saurabh Bajaj

U.S. Representative Barbara Lee (D-Oakland) joined other members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) on a visit to Baltimore on Monday July 20 to see, firsthand, the impact of HIV and AIDS in the black community. The 14 members of the CBC visited several clinics where they were able to see the enormous problems facing individuals, communities, and service providers as a result of HIV/AIDS and drug use. Following the visits to the clinics, the representatives met with Baltimore Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke, HIV treatment experts, and recovering intravenous drug users to draw out solutions to the HIV/AIDS and drug crises in the

black community.

Lee, a strong supporter of expanded HIV prevention and treatment programs, noted the toll AIDS is taking on the black community. "African-Americans, who make up 13 percent of the population, account for over 36 percent of total AIDS cases, and this number is still rising. We must take immediate action to reverse these troubling statistics," said Lee.

Lee has led the CBC's effort to convince U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala to declare HIV/AIDS a state of emergency in the black community. Lee has also been vocal in her support of legislation that would allow the use of federal funds for needle exchange programs. "Needle exchange is an effective way to reduce the spread of HIV among

African-Americans. Because over 50 percent of AIDS deaths for African-Americans are connected to contaminated needle use, effective needle exchange programs will prevent a significant number of infections among African-Americans," she said.

The CBC also expressed concern about the increased drug use among African-Americans across the nation. Lee noted that putting drug users in jail does not "reach the heart of the matter" and that placing a heavier burden on law enforcement is not a solution to the problem. "We must make drug treatment available to those who need it. That is how we will eradicate drugs and HIV from our communities," Lee said. ▽

HIV planning council seeks members

by Cynthia Laird

The HIV Health Services Planning Council is seeking applications for membership from consumers of CARE-funded services and others. The planning council is a 40-member body that prioritizes and allocates federal Ryan White CARE Act money for San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin counties.

Unlike previous application periods, the council's leadership and its membership committee have changed the process somewhat and there is now no deadline for people who are interested to apply. Tom Calvanese, one of the co-chairs and the staff person for the council, said the membership committee will conduct ongoing reviews of applications as they are submitted and will make recommendations to the mayor's office whenever vacancies occur on the council. The mayor makes the formal appointments to the council.

In addition to looking for consumers of CARE-funded services,

the council is also looking for representation among women; youth, particularly young women; Native Americans; African-Americans; and residents of San Mateo and Marin counties.

"If you are a representative of any of the above mentioned groups, please consider participating in this exciting and very rewarding work," said Calvanese.

The planning council has begun its formal prioritization process for the upcoming CARE fiscal year. Council and committee meetings are open to the public, and people who are considering becoming members are encouraged to attend meetings to learn more about the council and how it operates.

Calvanese noted that during the most recent funding cycle last year, the council allocated approximately \$37 million to fund a variety of services, including healthcare, housing, mental health, substance abuse, case management, food, peer advocacy, direct emergency financial assistance, child care, transportation

next page ▸

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For more information call Anna Smith
at (415) 476-9296 ext. 313

Ombuds efforts underway

by Timothy Rodrigues

Plans are moving forward for a privately funded statewide health ombuds program, granting an independent advocate the authority and resources to help consumers navigate the increasingly complex managed healthcare system, while a difference of opinion has delayed efforts to establish similar services within San Francisco government.

The statewide program will begin in six cities, including San Francisco and San Mateo, and involve local community nonprofits. It will be funded by a \$5 million, two-year grant from the California Endowment, a philanthropic foundation with assets of approximately \$2 billion, dedicated to improving the health and well-being of uninsured and underserved people in California.

The program will focus on those eligible for MediCal and be "a resource to help consumers navigate the changing healthcare arena to ensure they have access to services," said Marion Standish, a program officer at the endowment. She hopes the program will encourage other public and private efforts to provide ombuds services.

The San Francisco Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation (SFNLAF) will administer the program in San Francisco. "Anyone with a healthcare access issue would get a review," said Michael Keys, a staff attorney at SFNLAF, an agency that provides legal help to low-income San Francisco residents. The new program will include outreach

to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) community.

Efforts to establish a health ombuds program in San Francisco became muddled when advocates and the sponsoring member of the Board of Supervisors reached a difference of opinion.

In a letter dated June 11, Supervisor Amos Brown, original sponsor of the legislation, informed a member of the coalition pursuing the legislation that "after weighing public policy and fiscal considerations, I elected not to sponsor the version of the ombuds program legislation that you prefer."

A draft of the proposed legislation dated June 11, provided by

staffing needs.

Cost estimates for the new commission vary widely. Sponsoring advocates estimate \$750,000 per year for the whole commission, while the San Francisco Department of Administrative Services estimated \$3.5 million for a smaller pilot program confined initially to the MediCal-eligible population.

The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) supports the development of ombuds services and is assisting the board with the legislation; the health commission passed a resolution on March 17 supporting the general concept.

Efforts to establish a program in San Francisco became muddled...

coalition member Frederick Hobson, calls for an amendment to the city's administrative code to create a commission to oversee the operation of a new Health Care Ombuds Office and Commission serving San Franciscans "under any healthcare insurance program, including MediCal." Services would include education, outreach, advocacy, and assistance with grievance procedures.

Brown supports the creation of a pilot program before moving on to cover the whole city, while Hobson would like coverage extended to all residents from the start.

"We hope to solve problems before people have to go through the very unpleasant route of litigation," said Hobson.

Membership and funding for the seven member commission would be determined by the board and the mayor. Commissioners would hire an executive director who would determine

"We know many people in San Francisco who are eligible for Medi-Cal and Healthy Families [a program for low-income kids] who don't get these services because they don't know how to apply," said Dr. Mitch Katz, health director.

Hobson indicated advocates will formalize their organization to pursue the original legislation with a different supervisor.

Keys stressed the need for community involvement in developing the commission. "Before people decide to commit those resources," he said, "they need to sit down with the people who are already doing that work." ▼

SFNLAF provides legal help to low-income San Francisco residents including problems with social security, SSI, MediCal, housing, and same-sex domestic violence. Drop-in hours available; call (415) 982-1300.

HIV Planning

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tion, and others.

Members are required to attend two council meetings and at least one committee meeting per month. In order to facilitate the participation of people living with HIV/AIDS, the attendance requirement is flexible for those persons, added Calvanese.

The Ryan White CARE Act mandates that the council reflect the community it serves, and the council is particularly committed to increasing the participation of consumers of CARE-funded ser-

vices. Demonstrating that commitment, the council has included in its bylaws a requirement that 25 percent of its members be consumers of CARE-funded services who are free of conflict of interest.

People who are interested should pick up an application form at the San Francisco Department of Public Health's AIDS Office, or they can call Calvanese to receive a copy by mail or fax. ▼

The AIDS Office is located at 25 Van Ness Avenue, 5th floor. To get an application via mail or fax, call Calvanese at (415) 621-7712.



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August PolitiCalendar

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Meetings of interest to the community throughout August:

Board of Supervisors
August 3, 10, 17, 24; 2 p.m.
City Hall, 4th floor
401 Van Ness Avenue,
For committee meetings
call (415) 554-5184

SF Health Commission
August 4, 18; 3 p.m.
SF Department
of Public Health
101 Grove Street, Room 300
(Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday)
Info: (415) 554-2666

SF Youth Commission
August 6, 20; 5-7 p.m.
City Hall, Room 207
401 Van Ness Avenue
(Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday)
Info: (415) 554-6446

Out on the Island
August 10; 7 p.m.
City of Alameda's gay
community action group
(Meets 2nd Monday)
Location/info: (510) 337-1300

**HIV Prevention
Planning Council**
August 13, 27; 3-6 p.m.
Unitarian Church,
1187 Franklin at Geary
(Meets 2nd and 4th Thursday)
For committee meetings,
call (415) 554-9000

**Oakland HIV Health Services
Planning Council**
(Alameda, Contra Costa
counties)
August 12; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(Meets 2nd Wednesday)
Council's PWA Committee
August 14; 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
(Meets 2nd Friday)
Location/info: (510) 741-1856

**HIV Health Services
Planning Council**
August 17, 24, 31; 4:30 p.m.
AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Ave.
3rd floor conference room
Call for committee meetings
(415) 554-9136

**Alice B. Toklas
Democratic Club**
August 10; 7-9 p.m.
New location: MCC-SF
150 Eureka Street
(Meets 2nd Monday)
Info: (415) 522-3809

**Queer Latino Political
Action Committee (QL PAC)**
August 13 6:30 p.m.
Women's Building
3543 18th Street
(Meets 2nd Thursday)
Info: (415) 648-3702

**L/G/B/T Community
Center Project Board**
August 19; 7 p.m.
City Hall
401 Van Ness Avenue, 3rd Floor
(Meets 3rd Wednesday)
Info: (415) 241-1526

ACT UP/Golden Gate
August 4, 11, 18, 25; 7:30 p.m.
592 Castro Street
(Meets every Tuesday)
Info: (415) 252-9200

**Ambiente Latino
Democratic Club**
August 8; 4 p.m.
(Meets 2nd Saturday)
Location/info: (415) 239-2221

**LGBT Advisory Committee
SF Human Rights Commission**
August 18; 5:30 p.m.
25 Van Ness Avenue
(Meets 3rd Tuesday)
Info: (415) 252-2500

**Lesbians and Gays
of African Descent for
Democratic Action (LGADDA)**
August 20; 7 p.m.
507-B Divisadero
(Meets 3rd Thursday)

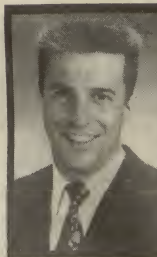
**Call for information
about these meetings:**

Harvey Milk Democratic Club
Info: (415) 751-5364

**CUSP: Community United
for Sexual Privacy**
Info: (415) 627-4019

**L/G/B/T Pride
Celebration Committee**
Info: (415) 864-3733

Log Cabin Republican Club
Info: (415) 522-2944



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sex really the only way out? A
conversation about how to get
the companionship you want.

Little Black Book

Thu • August 20 • 7 to 9 p.m.

The art of dating. How do you
know when someone is
boyfriend material? When
should you have sex -- the first
date, the second? How do you
make the first move? Or
gracefully end it if he's Mr.
Wrong? What happens if he
decides you're Mr. Wrong...and
you think he's Mr. Right? And,
how can you stay safe,
manage your anxieties and still
enjoy dating?

Truth or Dare

Tue • September 1 • 7 to 9 p.m.

Can men be trusted? If you
trust him, are you just being
naive? If you don't are you just
being paranoid? He says he's
negative, should you believe
him? He says he's being
faithful, but...? Trust is a
necessary ingredient of fun sex
and good relationships. This
conversation will help us
strategize how to learn to trust
him while being able to
recognize any red flags.



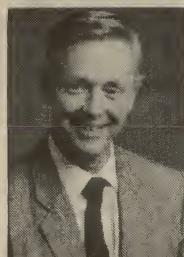
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My glowing personality

by David Mahon, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

In mid-April, I underwent an experimental radiation treatment for HIV. Since then, friends have been making jokes about how radiant I look, and how I must glow in the dark, etc. But I laugh along with them because I was lucky enough to be chosen to be the first subject in a trial to attempt to eradicate hidden HIV-infected T-cells.

The experiment was the idea of the researchers, led by Dr. Mike McCune, at the Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology at San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH). These researchers have been looking at the functioning of the thymus in people with HIV. The thymus is the organ in your body that stimulates undifferentiated immune cells to become T-cells. It is situated behind your sternum (or breast bone). It was traditionally thought that the thymus was a fully functioning organ only in children, that when people became adults the thymus shrank and didn't have any more use.

The researchers at the Gladstone Institute have been using CT scans to try to visualize thymus tissue in HIV-negative and HIV-positive adults. They have found that there is indeed functional thymus tissue in adults and that interestingly enough, many HIV-positive people had a larger thymus than corresponding HIV-negative controls of the same age. The findings from this study were published in

the June 1998 *Journal of Clinical Investigation* (Vol. 101, No. 11). These findings led the researchers to believe that the thymus was still able to play an active role in creating more T-cells in adults, especially in T-cell-depleted HIVers.

This is exciting news, as triple combination therapies are able to kill off most of the old infected T-cells, the thymus was able to regenerate a new batch of T-cells. This would leave the body with mostly new uninfected T-cells. One problem existed in that there always seemed to be a reservoir of infected T-cells that were hidden away in the lymph nodes, that only "came out" when they were stimulated by a particular antigen presentation. When these T-cells became stimulated they multiplied, spreading HIV infection into these new cells, which could then go forth and infect any other newly created T-cells.

This problem of a reservoir of latent HIV-infected cells has concerned scientists since the theory of an HIV "cure" was first postulated by Dr. David Ho two years ago. McCune and his associates at the Gladstone were interested in this problem and came up with an idea to specifically attack this reservoir of sequestered HIV-infected cells. They were familiar with the work of Dr. Steven Deeks, a colleague at SFGH, who had performed the famous baboon bone marrow transplant on AIDS activist Jeff Getty in 1995. Before Getty received the transplant, Deeks had used radiation to make room in his long bones for the new bone marrow and to suppress his lymphocytes (white blood cells) so that they would not attack the foreign bone marrow. As it turned out, the baboon bone marrow did not have any effect on Getty's immune system. But another surprising result did occur. After years of next to no T-cells, Getty's T-cell numbers moved up to 100 and above. His viral load had been detectable before the radiation, but became undetectable within weeks following the radiation. All this was happening with no change in his drug therapy.

The explanation for this seemed to be in the radiation treatment. His infected T-cells may have been killed off and afterwards new T-cells were regenerated that were not infected. Using the newly available combination therapies, Getty was able to suppress infected T-cells from proliferating and infecting these new T-cells. The folks at the Gladstone Institute, who had a pool of HIVers whom they had thymus data on, wanted to directly evaluate the possibility that radiation

might indeed kill off infected T-cells and permit new T-cell production from the thymus.

I was in their thymus study and volunteered to be one of the candidates for radiation. I was chosen last summer because I was on stable triple combination therapy and also because my thymic size and function had been previously studied. They planned to experiment with three different doses of radiation: 450 rads (a dose similar to the one which Jeff had received), 300 rads, and 150 rads. For comparison, someone with cancer might receive 3,000 rads total during their treatment.

The researchers wanted to use only the lowest dose (150 rads) on me as they wanted to make sure that the experiment would not be harmful in any way. They explained to me that there was little likelihood of harm, but also because they were using such a small amount of radiation, there would also likely be little benefit.

I figured, since I'd already lost my hair due to family genetics, what did I have to lose besides infected T-cells? So I underwent a battery of examinations. I was all set to go, when the radiologist stopped the proceedings as she said I was "too healthy." On the triple combination therapy for over a year, my viral load was below 500 and my T-cells were continuing to rise from the low 100s into the 400s. She explained that we wouldn't be able to determine if any subsequent increase in T-cells would be due to the radiation or the drug therapy. So my entry into the study was put on hold.

I was approached again about the experiment this past spring. My T-cells had stabilized in the low 400s over the past half year, while my viral load remained below 500, so any dramatic change could be better related to the radiation treatment. They zapped me with the radiation April 21 in a most protective environment: they had devised a way to shield my thymus, my long bones with their bone marrow tissue, and my other vital organs from the radiation. The process took about an hour, where I had to lie as still as possible. The radiologists were extremely careful to radiate only the desired lymph tissue. Afterwards I stayed overnight at SFGH for observation. They had given me an anti-nausea medication the day of the radiation and I felt no side effects either right after or since the treatment.

My first blood test following the treatment revealed that my helper T-cells had dropped into the low 200s. McCune and his as-

next page ►

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Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Steven W. Dillow

February 19, 1960 — July 16, 1998



Steven was assistant front desk manager for the Fairmont Hotel and part-time Realtor for Prudential California Realty.

Steven will be lovingly remembered and missed

by his family and many friends in San Francisco, San Diego, and Phoenix. He is survived by his father and stepmother, Jerry and Karen Dillow, grandfather Gordon Dillow, sisters Marjorie Tricoli and family and Penny Blaylock and family, and best friends Rich McClellan and ("brother") Greg Yedding.

A memorial service was held on July 28, 1998, at Arthur J. Sullivan & Co. Funeral Home in San Francisco. In lieu of flowers, donations in Steven's memory may be made to Project Open Hand, 730 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109, or to any AIDS charity of your choice.

Benjamin T. Watkins, LVN

January 4, 1963 — July 20, 1998



Ben died suddenly of an acute illness on July 20, 1998 at V.A. Hospital, San Francisco. A native of Patuckette, RI, and veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Ben moved to San Francisco in the mid-1980s, be-

came a Licensed Vocational Nurse, working long and hard in our community caring for people with AIDS. He participated in the 1993 March on Washington. He was also an OR nurse at VAMC San Francisco.

Ben is survived by his domestic partner, Carlos "Harlo" Santiago of San Francisco; his son, Adam Watkins of Daytona Beach, Florida; father Ben-

jamin T. Watkins Jr. and wife Mary Ellen; mother Kathleen A. Bardeen and husband, Stanley; sisters Sharon Reels and Jo-anne Rishton; brother Jason Watkins; grandmother Lonnie Mae Strickland; aunt Pat Masiello and cousins Michael and Anthony; two nieces and two nephews. He was a dear and long-time friend of Anwar Hussain and George Robertson.

Donations in Ben's memory may be made to the Adam Watkins trust fund, account #030-036650-7, at Home Savings of America, 2900 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94110, attn: Olivia Quinonez, (415) 824-3313.

May his love be reflected in us forever.

Eduardo (Berty) Ferrande

January 26, 1954 — July 23, 1998



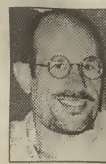
After battling with cancer for a year and a half, Berty passed away peacefully in Buenos Aires. Most of the battle was fought in San Francisco where he left his heart. His soul, however, was in

Buenos Aires.

Berty will be missed by many dear friends both north and south of the equator. But no one will miss him more than the "Ferrande wives" — Franzita, Jorge, Nico and Jorgito. ¡Adios, amigo!

Gary Wells Newcomb

January 3, 1954 — July 6, 1998



Gary Wells Newcomb died of a pulmonary embolism at Princeton Memorial Hospital in Princeton, NJ. Most recently a resident of Princeton Junction, NJ, Gary had lived in the Philadelphia region

for many years and also in San Francisco.

Gary was born in Framville, VA to Garland E. and Lena Wells Newcomb and was raised in Chase City, VA. He graduated from Shenandoah University with a Bachelor of Music Degree and received his Master of Music Degree from Temple University in Philadelphia. He was a proud member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

Gary's career, while initially in the music field, was primarily focused on employment services. Most recently he was Vice President and CEO at Network Personnel in Wilmington, DE ('95-'98). Previously he was principal at S&N ASSO-

ciates in Princeton Junction ('94-'95), and regional manager at Western Staffing Services in San Francisco ('92-'94).

Music provided great joy for Gary. Her performed in numerous vocal groups, including the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus (1989-1994).

Gary was married to Mark Short in a Commitment Ceremony on February 18, 1995.

Gary was preceded in death by all grandparents and both parents. He is survived by his beloved partner, Mark Short, of Princeton Junction, by his dear sister and brother-in-law, Linda and David Shores, their children Laura and Michael, of Keysville, VA, and many friends.

Following Gary's wishes, there will be a private memorial service at Gary and Mark's home on August 13, and a graveside service on August 15 in Chase City, VA. A memorial service in San Francisco is also being planned.

In lieu of flowers, Gary directed that memorial contributions be directed to an AIDS research organization. Contributions may be sent to Gary Wells Newcomb Memorial, 297 Clarksville Road, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550.

ACT UP

◀ previous page

sociates expressed surprise that the small amount of radiation to my lymph nodes had effectively destroyed so many T-cells. My T-cells remained in the low 200s for about a month. In the first two months after the radiation treatment my T-cells leveled off in the mid-300s. I go in for blood work monthly and will be monitored

for a year. I have nothing but good things to say about everyone involved in this project, each of them was personally caring and concerned for my welfare all the way through the project. I was told that I could back out of the study if I had any concerns, even up to the last minute. The staff and researchers were always ready to address any questions or concerns that I might experience throughout the whole process.

With the initial success of my

experiment, McCune is looking to evaluate this treatment on a few other PWAs. They have a list of potential recipients, but are also looking for others who are interested in this study. ▼

Anyone who is interested in finding out more about this experiment or others trials that are being done at the Gladstone Institute can call Diane Schmidt at (415) 695-3820.

HIV Community Forum

Tuesday, August 4, 1998

6:00pm to 8:30pm

6:00pm: light dinner served 6:30pm: Program begins

Location: UCSF Laurel Heights Campus Auditorium
3333 California St., San Francisco

Presented in two parts

"HIV Related Fatigue"

Part one presented by Lisa Capalini, M.D., who will discuss fatigue and quality of life issues for people living with HIV/AIDS.

"Understanding Your Options" Returning to Work

Part two Daniel Fortuño will be discussing disability program rules for individuals returning to work from HIV/AIDS disability.

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On the wings of Hermes

by Jim Provenzano

He is a runt in school, a fag, a pimply wimp, a bony boy. He passes out cold on the gymnasium floor while his gym teacher forces the class to run laps around the decaying auditorium with the doors wide open in the middle of winter.

He imagines planting secret video cameras in the locker room to capture the casual naked beauty of his schoolboy friends.

He cannot do two pull-ups in a

row.

He often fears the shame of forgetting to wear white socks on gym days. He forgets a comb. His hair sticks up like a drowned rat, drying from the brief and fearful shower.

He joins clubs and teams, thinking it will provide extended brotherhood. He is proven wrong.

She is a tomboy, either too fat or too skinny, or not enough something. On the bus, she rehearses greetings, stuttering with love for the girl in the seat behind her. She is planning a birthday

party. She has packed dance wear in her backpack, thinking that being artistic will bring her to people from magical distant lands. They will dance and parade and be proud and robust and silly and brave, some day.

She wears pink shorts to gym class and is called Miss Piggy. She befriends the gym instructor and is called a dyke. She vows to never exercise again.

"I see a beautiful gigantic swimmer swimming naked through the eddies of the sea, his brown hair lies close and even to his head, he strikes out with courageous arms..." wrote Walt Whitman.

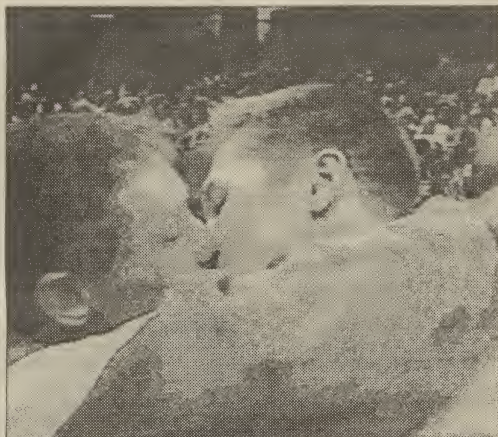
He is a financial success, a professional fag, dating. His glance is open to interpretation in the gym. His internal trainer forces him to conquer the sparkling machines, with the doors wide open in the middle of a warm winter, closed through a foggy summer.

He clicks through websites full of vidcaps from secret video cameras planted in locker rooms to capture the casual naked beauty of men.

He can do 37 pull-ups in a row. The men in the showers sometimes sport proud semi-erections.

He often forgets to wear socks. He doesn't have enough hair to worry about forgetting a comb.

Flying over the Atlantic Ocean, wishing he could feel every sea fish and creature he passes over, he reads Walt Whitman as the stew-



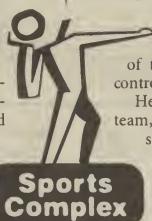
Gymnast Alexi Nemov kisses his teammate.

ardess hands him a soda, as her co-workers try in vain to control the bubbling enthusiasm of the sacred band of sisters and brothers captured inside the metal hull of this airship. They are controlled, but giddy.

He was a member of a team, but then, after being shut out, after almost giving up, in reading his application form, was reminded that his is not a team sport, and made plans to go, whether anyone wanted him to or not.

The boy inside the re-tooled, refurbished, too-often-injured, yet oft-joyously aching body, is over 30, but still more fit than any of his taunters from that cold school. He could go back to that small town, to that small gym instructor, and flatten them.

Instead, he flies over them all at 30,000 feet, transported by the gods, via corporate birds fed on the sucked-out planetary blood of long-gone dinosaurs.



On the plane, she rehearses greetings in eight languages.

She is planning safe-sex outreach on a one-to-one level. She has packed dance wear and street wear and athletic wear in the belly of this metal flying hull, and it will bring her to people from magical distant lands, some of whom she has already e-mailed. They will dance and parade and be proud and robust and silly and brave.

Most of all, they will sweat. They will sweat a lot. They are athletes. They are Olympians.

They will sleep in hotels, tents and rooming houses, on floors and sofas. They will sleep together and alone, and in groups. They will stay up all night. They will break curfew.

Apollo and Artemis and the gods and goddesses of the Olympic Games look down, and they smile.

He will take pictures and jot down e-mail addresses. She will make jokes and be misunderstood in many tongues.

They will win. They may fail, but they still win. ▼



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New ISU rules cause serious problems for Gay Games figure skating

by Nellie Voss and Paul Van Yperen

The International Skating Union (ISU) refuses to recognize Gay Games Amsterdam 1998 as an official event. This has serious consequences for the figure skating competition at Gay Games. Skaters, referees and officials who will participate in this event will be expelled from further participation in official ISU competition. The Gay Games get underway this Saturday, August 1 in Amsterdam.

About 25 of the 100 registered figure skaters for the Gay Games will therefore have to reconsider their participation. Since all of the referees for Gay Games are internationally recognized jurors, it's almost certain that they too will have to cancel their participation if the ISU sticks to its decision.

According to Gay Games Director Marc Janssens, the financial consequences of this ISU decision are enormous for Gay Games. Ticket sales for the figure skating are in full swing and approximately 75,000 tickets have already been sold. In total, the financial loss could amount to a quarter of a million Dutch guilders.

"We are in discussion with the ISU at the moment. We are even

considering to take legal action," Janssens said. "The decision of the ISU on Wednesday [July 22] came as complete surprise for us. It's less than two weeks before the event and this is just not acceptable. Our relation with the Royal Dutch Skating Union KNSB is a very good one and on the basis of a letter from the KNSB we had assumed that there would be no problems at all in this respect."

The chairman of the KNSB, W. Schenk, said he already knew that the ISU was working on new regulations to prevent the unchecked growth of commercial ice dance events. But he, too, is quite indignant about the fact that the ISU is confronting the Gay Games organization with such an important change in regulations at such short notice. Schenk has asked the ISU to give the Gay Games dispensation of the new rules, but so far they refuse to make any exceptions.

Daan Boer, Gay Games coordinator for figure skating, remains calm as ever in all this turmoil. "After the verbal agreement of Mr. Schenk that he would represent our interests at the ISU congress, we didn't expect this terrible turn of events. But with or without the consent of the ISU, we will make this event a fantastic happening anyhow," said Boer. ▼

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sex clubs

◀ page 1

at the Stop AIDS Project (SAP), differentiated between "on-line" thinking, the thought process in the heat of a sexual moment, and "off-line" thinking, at a calmer time outside of a sexual moment. "Increasingly we [AIDS prevention services] need to focus on on-line thinking as much as possible," Perez said, stressing that an individual can make a commitment to safer sex during off-line thinking that does not translate to the actual sexual moment.

A common theme among the HIV and health educators interviewed was that commercial sex establishments may present an opportunity for HIV/STD prevention. "Sex clubs and bathhouses provide an excellent opportunity to reach men at a critical point," said Perez.

Dan Wohlfeiler, education director at SAP, acknowledged that

the work being performed by some commercial sex establishments "proves that AIDS education is not the sole province" of AIDS service organizations. However, he raised a caution, "Is education the same as prevention? I would rather not rely on the presence of an educator," said Wohlfeiler.

Healthy options?

The goal of the program at Steamworks, financed with revenue from the bathhouse, is "to reduce the transmission of HIV and STD infection among our customers through innovative, proactive education that clearly demonstrates how to effectively integrate safer sex practices into their lives." The program was founded in 1987 by member of the Berkeley Gay Men's Health Collective in cooperation with the Steamworks owners.

Safe-sex efforts begin the moment patrons approach the door and are asked to sign an entry card

containing a pledge to proactive safer sex. The prevention and education program consists of a variety of components including information tabling, presentations and discussions, HIV/STD testing, financial and condom donations to the community, and bringing community groups into the bathhouse. The focus goes beyond HIV and STDs and includes broad health concerns and other issues in which patrons have expressed an interest such as developing intimacy. This helps draw in men who may believe they know all they need to know about HIV.

Cotten has an open door policy during the time he is in, and men are free to drop by and discuss whatever is on their minds. When he is not in the office, Cotten brings in a number of AIDS/HIV prevention organizations from around the East Bay. "Often the discussions start small and lead to something else," said Cotten.

Such as the interaction Cotten had with Ralph (not his real

name), a 35-year-old bisexual typical of the Steamworks' daytime clientele. An initial drop-in visit lead to a 90-minute session that ended with referrals to other support organizations. Ralph has now been able to see beyond the bathhouse as an outlet and attends other social support activities.

This is also an example of the front-line strategy that drives the program. As an example, Cotten mentioned the time a patron explained he heard that swallowing hydrogen peroxide mouth wash could kill HIV in the stomach. He immediately posted warnings.

Cotten is very proud of the approach they have developed, based on "sex-positive outreach in a sex-positive environment." Apparently others are also impressed. Steamworks has received commendations and recognition including the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and a 1997 Public Health Partner Award to Cotten from the Public Health Foundation of Alameda County.

The Berkeley bathhouse is visited by other health educators. Staff from the Kings County health department in Washington state recently toured the Steamworks to get ideas for their program of outreach at the bathhouses and sex clubs there. "...these venues allow us to reach people who are sexually active... [the Steamworks] program is a model," said Mark Alstead, HIV/STD program coordinator in for Kings County.

Cotten is clearly committed to this work and was proud to show off the program on a recent tour. He hopes others will work to develop similar programs. "We have done a disservice in the last 15 years. We must put HIV back into perspective with STDs and STDs back into perspective with gay men's lives," he said.

A sentence in the printed overview of the program sums up the basic philosophy behind it. "A safer sex experience is worth ten thousand safer sex messages." ▼

Vida fallout

◀ page 1

Haikalis, client services director, issued background information on the decision to eliminate *Vida*. "The foundation made the decision to reallocate private funds to protect our housing case management [and] case worker capacity as well as the women and families case management program," Haikalis stated. "We made the decision to disband the *Vida* program as it is currently structured because two other Latino-based organizations ... received funding through the RFP [request for proposal] process to provide case management to Latino individuals ..."

Recent financial documents indicate the foundation has several million dollars in reserve and top executives received hefty pay hikes for the fiscal year that ended in June 1997. The foundation has refused to release current salary information, and a spokesman

said that data will only be made available when the next federal tax forms are released in May.

San Francisco Supervisor "Ammanio said he's 'worried,' with this ... development, particularly since another Latino HIV/AIDS program, *Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida* recently went through the tough process of getting a new fiscal agent in the wake of financial troubles at the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. That agency relinquished control over its three local programs several months ago.

"I think people deserve special programs and I am willing to work with SFAF to reinstitute *Vida*," Ammanio told the B.A.R.

Ammanio's colleague on the board, Supervisor Mark Leno carefully chose his words and said that while he "doesn't know the specifics of the foundation's budget," he wants to make sure all clients receive services.

According to Haikalis's statement, all of the 159 *Vida* clients

were reviewed to ensure an adequate transition. She also emphasized that the clients still have access to services at the foundation and said that many of the clients already had case managers at other programs. "The *Vida* chart review indicated that virtually all of the *Vida* clients receiving case management services from the foundation had at least two, and often three or four, case managers at other agencies, in addition to their case manager at the foundation," she stated.

A breakdown of the transition shows that 34 of the clients currently receive case management services at IFR; 24 get those services at MNHC; 10 receive services at St. Mary's; and 31 received medical care, case management, and other services at San Francisco General Hospital, Kaiser, the Tom Waddell Clinic, and other city health clinics.

"All of these agencies have agreed to continue case management services for these existing clients whom they already serve,"

said Haikalis. "They are not being asked to expand their client caseloads as a result of our decision."

Meanwhile, the clients are hoping to get community support and have been passing out information at various meetings. Several clients sat down with the B.A.R. earlier this month with a copy of the letter they sent to leaders at the SFAF. *Vida* was one of the few programs in San Francisco that offered clients, many of whom are monolingual Spanish speakers, specialized case management services. While the drop-in portion of the program will continue, all paid SFAF staff members and case managers for *Vida* have either resigned or been transferred to other departments, Haikalis said.

Some *Vida* clients see SFAF's decision to eliminate the program as discriminatory and say they depended on the program for help with a variety of services.

"Why take away our program?" asked Juan Alvarez. "I feel

very discriminated against. 'Gay Life' [SFAF's much-publicized HIV prevention program] doesn't have anything in Spanish."

Added Jorge Ortiz, "My case worker is my leader to connect for medical treatment."

Haikalis said other factors went into the SFAF's decision, including "the need to protect housing case management which is no longer supported by city CARE funds and serves disproportionately large numbers of Latino (16 percent) and African-American (33 percent) individuals," and "the need to protect women's case management which is supported only minimally through city CARE funds and serves disproportionately large numbers of Latino (11 percent) and African-American (53 percent) individuals."

"I want to emphasize again that no individual has lost access to services as a result of this decision, nor will clients be displaced as a result of this decision," said Haikalis. ▼

Viagra

◀ page 2

leading to strokes or heart attacks. Forstein stated that "people underestimate the power of poppers to kill when used with *Viagra*." Several deaths in gay men have already been attributed to such combinations. Other deaths may be due to the sudden resumption of sexual activity by older men with existing heart conditions.

Forstein noted that by restricting the amount of the \$10 pill they will reimburse, HMOs and insurance companies are "setting the agenda for how often people

should have sex." Scarce speculated that *Viagra* may increasingly make sex a class issue. People are often able to get the drug from friends or over the Internet, and the federal government is considering making *Viagra* a controlled substance. Forstein cautioned against sharing medication with anyone for whom it is not prescribed.

Several members of the audience discussed their own experiences with *Viagra*. One man said that after years of having trouble keeping an erection, *Viagra* has allowed him to be a top again. "It's a wonderful drug for me," he concluded.

Looking to the future, one participant wondered whether

Viagra would change gay community norms so that men were no longer content with normal physiology. If *Viagra* use becomes widespread, he wondered, "would we demand 100 percent erections 100 percent of the time?" Rofes said he could foresee the development of a *Viagra* subculture, similar to the steroid and party drug subcultures that already exist, but emphasized the importance of being able to choose not to be a part of that scene.

Forstein concluded that his real goal as a physician was "to help people have real freedom around who they are as a sexual person," a goal which *Viagra* may help or hinder. ▼

Laguna Honda

◀ page 5

then-most recent bonds and through the November election, would automatically be passed through to tenants.

Tenant groups opposed the de Young museum bond in June and went on record opposing the Laguna Honda bond. Recent efforts to negotiate a compromise failed.

"The reason that they had to back off was that the landlords would not agree to a reasonable compromise," said Robert Haaland, an organizer with the Tenant's Union.

Kaufman took issue with Local

250 statement. "I have a reputation for being the voice of reason on this board, and I think it is my responsibility to point out to the voters the facts about this bond," she said referring to criticism over her recent comments on the issue.

Since last month's election, a number of community and political leaders, such as the *San Francisco Independent*, state Senator Quentin Kopp (I-San Francisco), and some supervisors have vowed to oppose all bonds until the Laguna Honda issue is addressed.

"We want to rebuild Laguna Honda as soon as possible, and if a compromise is not available or not yet worked out, it is sensible to wait," said Katz. ▼

Willie Brown

◀ page 4

the LGBT community, nearly all those interviewed mentioned his support of the equal benefits ordinance, and the numerous appointments to his administration made from this community, although Romero suggested those appointments have mainly been from one perspective. Kipnis stressed the mayor's leadership on LGBT rights both locally and nationally. "His leadership on gay rights is a light across the country," she said.

Opinions varied as to why the mayor might be seeking early endorsements. Lira surmised that it was just good politics, German

speculated that it was just Brown's style, Kipnis believed that it would allow the mayor to focus on the work of being mayor rather than the internecine politics that often come with the political club endorsement process.

Still, Macias wondered if Brown might be looking up early support because he was concerned about his chances at re-election.

Romero commented that the mayor may view the Milk Club as "a political enemy" because of past activities of the club. For example, the club supported Propositions F and K in last month's election; both were viewed as possible attempts to diminish Brown's standing among the electorate.

"He is making a whole entity

an enemy when the 'enemy' is our [Milk Club] democratic process; because we give each member one vote, and they are all equal," said Romero.

This points to one very simple possible motive of the mayor: knowing who is for you and who is against you. The question is, does the mayor really act on that information?

The mayor's race will be held in November 1999 and is considered nonpartisan in that all candidates run as a group rather than with specific party affiliation. Reports are that Brown will ask the San Francisco Democratic Party County Central Committee to consider an early endorsement soon. ▼

Sapphistication

◀ page 10

going beyond just being a good and comforting listener to reach that priestess zone in which, without acting in earnest as a confessor, I managed to say the right things at the right time ... including dropping in just a hint of my experience as an estranged child when it would have maximum effect — right when she was juuuuust about cried out.

The very next evening, a kind thought in an e-mail encouraged an on-line acquaintance to let the dam of her pent-up grief break also — sense of both my amazement and sense of honor at the privilege of her

trusting me with such deep feelings. And it came to me: I used to do healing work like this all the time, and even considered it a purpose of my life, managing to be right at somebody else's emotional crossroads just as they needed someone and making it look casual.

Why did I ease off? Too many women looking not to move through and past a challenge but for confirmation of their sense of serial victimhood (and supposed righteousness for being too fragile for this world). Nice to know I've still got it, though ... and that I'm happy to work magic when doing so is my gift, not someone's "entitlement." If the purpose of life is indeed to learn and grow, well, ya gotta learn and grow. ▼

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SF Health Dept seeks applicants for Aides to recruit/interview for a behavioral risk study of gay/bi men. Required: 6 mos experience working with gaybi men and/or 6 mos administering surveys. Call Rob Guzman at 554-9342 for job description and application forms. Deadline 8/07/98.

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DHS #134

The City and County of San Francisco,
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(SFDHS)

is seeking qualified organizations to operate the Wage-Based Community Service Pilot Program, part of San Francisco's CalWORKs program, which will provide temporary and transitional community service job positions for participants encountering problems entering the regular job market.

An RFQ packet may be picked up at SFDHS, 170 Otis Street, 8th Floor, beginning Thursday, July 23, 1998. Office hours are from 8:00am to 5:00pm. RFQ is due Wednesday, August 12, 1998 by 5:00pm, NO EXCEPTIONS. For further information to receive a RFQ packet, call Louis Voccia at (415) 557-6594 or Rosa Inez at (415) 557-5538

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN
AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO FILE NUMBER
996105

In the Matter of the Application of Ben Lai Huang For change of name. The application of Ben Lai Huang for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Ben Lai Huang has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Pun Loi Wong. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 17th day of August 1998, at 9:00 o'clock AM of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. Dated this day June 16, 1998.

JULY 9, 16, 23, 30, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224150
The following person(s) are doing business as Whatever Personal Assistant service 70 Crestline Dr #13 SF CA 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed Reginald L. Chew. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 7/13/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/13/98

JULY 16, 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224136
The following person(s) are doing business as 16-91 Construction 331A 28th Ave. SF CA 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Poon Ting Cham. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business

name or names on 7/10/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/10/98

JULY 16, 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224023
The following person(s) are doing business as Trinity Buffet 1169 Market St. #805 SF, CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Daisy Li. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 7/07/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/07/98

JULY 16, 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224020
The following person(s) are doing business as Tough Gloves 969 Page St. SF, CA 94117. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Bryan Freedman. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 7/07/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/07/98

JULY 16, 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224022
The following person(s) are doing business as Freelance ARTSTAFF 1169 Market St. Suite 608 SF CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kevin Rummelhart. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 7/07/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/07/98

JULY 16, 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224152
The following person(s) are doing business

as New Millennium Technologies 854 44th Avenue SF, CA 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Shit Vladislav. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 7/13/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/13/98

JULY 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224274
The following person(s) are doing business as World Wide Wash 300 De Haro St. SF, CA 94107. This business is conducted by an corporation signed Robin Talmadge. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 7/17/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/17/98

JULY 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224251
The following person(s) are doing business as Uguigary 2 Falmouth St #4 SF, CA 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Robert L. Yankowski. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 7/16/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/16/98

JULY 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224224
The following person(s) are doing business as Josephine's Day Care 150 Ankeny St. SF, CA 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Josephine Tolbert. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 1/04/97. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/15/98

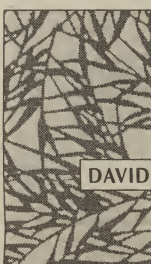
JULY 23, 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224402
The following person(s) are doing business as Rustica-Castro 4077 18th St. SF, CA 94114. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Byron Gougoumis. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 7/22/98. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/22/98

JULY 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 30, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224344
The following person(s) are doing business as Enhancing Gifts 4802 Geary Blvd, SF, CA 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Wayne Hayakawa. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/21/98

JULY 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 30, 1998

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BAY AREA REPORTER

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224369
The following person(s) are doing business as Ed Hamilton Photography 522 Arkansas St. SF, CA 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Edward J. Hamilton. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/21/98

JULY 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 30, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224366
The following person(s) are doing business as Grand Central Auction Company 1632 A Market St. SF, CA 94102. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Robert McCartney, President. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/21/98

JULY 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 30, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224419
The following person(s) are doing business as Summit Greenery 170 Margaret Ave. SF, CA 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Dorothy Lautermilch. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/23/98

JULY 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 30, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 224449
The following person(s) are doing business as Frisco Tee's 135 10th St. SF, CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Raul Villaseenor. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 6/16/96. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 7/24/98

JULY 30, AUGUST 6, 13, 30, 1998

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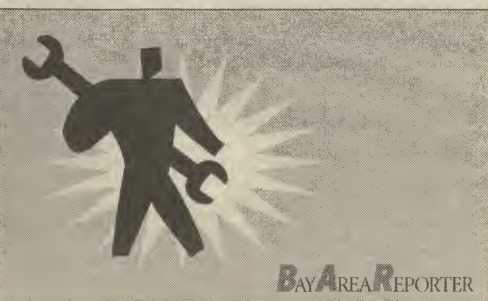
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Showcase for new choreography
Summerfest/Dance offers dancers and
directors to watch; Aimée Ts'ao reviews.
page 34

Pre-Felliniesque Fellini
His early masterpiece
'Nights of Cabiria' returns.
page 32



Tantalizing flesh
The life and film career
of Joe Dallesandro.
page 33



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 28 • No. 31 • 30 July 1998

We are family

'LESBIAN FAMILY PORTRAITS' AT SF LIBRARY

by Deborah Peifer



Jamie, Patrick, and
Josephina in a 1997
photograph by
Cathy Cade.

There have always been lesbian moms. Even before the current baby boom, dykes were finding ways, through temporary heterosexual marriage, donor insemination, and if you believe it, wishing really hard, to make babies. What's changed in the past several years is that lesbian moms have become more visible. A stunning new book, and a gorgeous exhibit at the new Main Library, celebrate the ways in which lesbians do the mom thing.

Lesbian Family Portraits at the Main features the work of Cathy Cade and selections from a new book by Barbara Seyda and Diana Herrera. The powerful images reflect the varieties of the lesbian experience, as women of all ages, ethnicities, and classes are portrayed mothering or just being mom. Cade's "I Need You to Listen to Me 1993" shows a stern mother and a young child who I am sure has just done something huge. I swear I could hear her voice when I looked at the picture. The photos by Seyda show not only mothers and children but grandmothers, too, all reveling in their pleasure in one another. The photos were so wonderful that I just had to speak with the women who had captured these visions of so many valuable families.

Cathy Cade has been a lesbian and a photographer for 27 years. She explains: "I came out in the Spring of '71, and that same Spring I started taking photos. I was involved in the women's movement, and that was all about self-expression and being who I wanted to be. I wanted to be part of the movement and to make a contribution, but I didn't want to have to go to any more meetings! Taking photos was political. I remember thinking, 'They can't stop me.' Making movies involves lots of money, but to take photos, all you need is a camera and film."

Cade's connection to the idea of lesbian mother-

page 38 ►

Our stories, our selves

SF PWAS REMEMBER THE '70s, HARVEY MILK AND AIDS ACTIVISM

by Benjamin Shepard

This year, 1998, marks the 20th anniversary of the assassination of Harvey Milk, the first gay on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. It also marks some four years since what I consider the low point of the pandemic, 1994. Shanti Project, where I worked, was reeling. The healthcare fights of the 103rd Congress were lost. At the AIDS conference in Yokohama, Jonathan Mann suggested that the previous decade's AIDS research, "while courageous," had proven "manifestly insufficient." The obits in the *B.A.R.* numbered some 20 an issue that fall. After experiencing the consequences of our culture's awkward and frequently Byzantine means of grappling with death and disease, many let go ... so many stories faded into black.

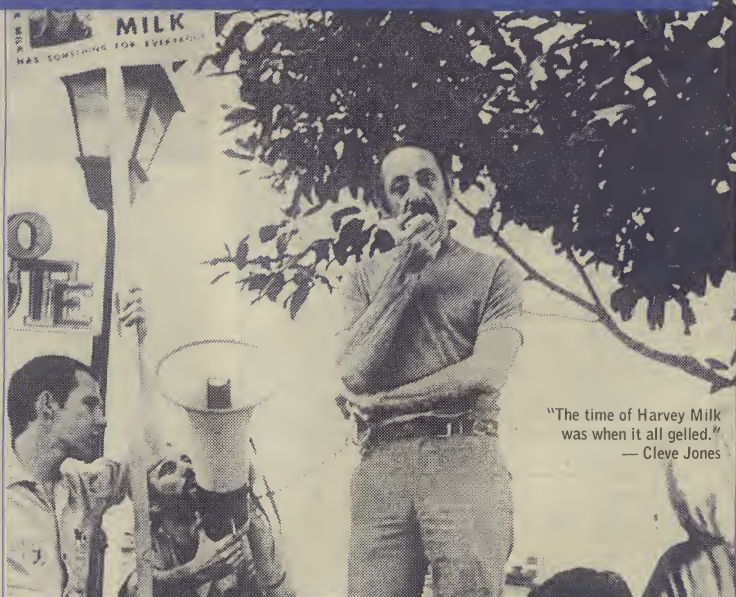
Calling all stories

The day in 1994 after another '70s migration cohort died at the housing program where I worked, I bought a taperecorder to preserve the recollections of other PWAs. I made a flier with the banner, "Calling All Stories. Remember Reagan and GRID? Living Long Term with HIV?" and placed it all over the city. Over the next two years, I would bus around town listening to some 30 PWAs telling me the story of their life here. The San Francisco AIDS story would be a narrative about a community, and about regular citizens reaching out to protect and rebuild.

With 10,000 AIDS deaths in San Francisco alone, it was impossible to walk through the city without being aware that an epidemic was raging. The lingering impact of the losses had found its way into the very fabric of people's lives and communities. The gay papers had even begun reporting on the new "multiple loss syndrome."

Fortunately, many integral components necessary for a community re-

page 37 ►



"The time of Harvey Milk
was when it all gelled."
— Cleve Jones

Crawford Barton / courtesy of the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California

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by Roberto Friedman
and Glen Helfand (in LA)

Lethal Weapon 4 was the summer blockbuster on the marquee, and police barricades blocked the sidewalk outside Mann's Chinese Theater on Hollywood Boulevard last week. The tourist fans strained to get a glimpse of whoever it was walking down the E-TV and Access Hollywood camera-lined red carpet into the movie palace for the closing night of Outfest, LA's glam answer to Frameline's SF International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. **Holly Woodlawn** and other cast members of Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss may not be **Mel Gibson**-caliber stars, but the celeb-hungry teenage girls were screaming for them anyway. More often they were cheering on same-sex couples of tan film execs and their studly dates in tuxedos and/or gowns filing in.

The action inside the legendary theater was its first "queer premiere," a history-making event that may not linger like **Rock Hudson**'s footprints in the cement, but the excitement was palpable. Lengthy intros and thanks from the film's distributor rustled up catcalls from the crowd, but director **Tommy O'Haver** smoothed things out when he channeled the ghost of **Joan Crawford** before his cinematic "trifle" unspooled.

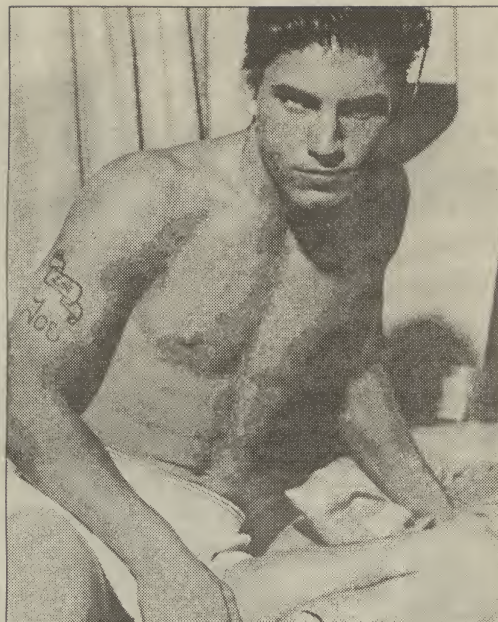
At the afterparty, just up the street at the cheesy Hollywood Entertainment Museum, most everyone said they loved the film — though many added "it wasn't exactly profound." Guests, including a fair number of famous persons, sipped Absolut in the museum's main exhibit area and nibbled on petit fours from a buffet table set up in front of a display about goey monster make-up, while drag queen video clips from the movie were projected on the screen on the set of the *Star Trek* control room.



Ian McKellan

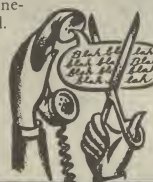
More drinks were poured on the actual set for the *Cheers* bar, an oddly heterosexual environment for this affair, but no one seemed to mind. A disheveled **Ian McKellan** sat on **Woody Harrelson**'s old barstool offering acting advice to the young star of *Edge of Seventeen*. **Chris Stafford**, while nearby, former *Out* editor **Bruce Steel** and delectable **Wilson Cruz** (late of *Rent* and *My So-Called Life*) discussed their current projects and gym activities.

The Outfest fete had a far more industry feel than Frameline's lower-keyed and better-catered parties, but some festival circuit celebrities still had fond memories of closing night in San Francisco. "They sure showed us a good time up there," **Jennifer**



Joe Dallesandro isn't talking about his past in porn.

Tilly told *Out There*, also speaking for her co-star in *Relax — It's Just Sex*. "**Lori Petty**'s still talking about those [fisting] videos we saw at the Powerhouse."



Out There

In the flesh

Talking about videos, our hard-wired porno source, **Deepest Throat**, called to tip us off to the independent video shop in town which currently stocks that leg-

endary but hard-to-find contraband tape which allegedly shows **Joe Dallesandro** at 18 (or maybe 16?) in action, already a star in meat films. We can't tell you the name of the store, because then the tape would not be available for long. DT, who has given the proceedings a good workout in his VCR, says a young stud with a Little Joe tattoo on his bicep and Joe's famous dimples does everything and back: J/O, sex in a sailor outfit, getting wickedly fucked. Why weren't these choice examples of cinema verité included in the new filmography *Little Joe, Superstar*? Could Little Joe be ashamed of his grind 'n' grunt past? Our ace film critic **Gary Morris** reviews the book (and the rest of the star's oeuvre) in this week's ish.



James Whale

Noticing the little people

Our fly on the wall at a Manhattan cocktail party heard a choice little morsel about that upcoming film *Gods and Monsters*, based on **Christopher Bram**'s novel not of the same name. Gay actor royalty **Ian McKellan** plays gay filmmaker **James Whale** in a

star turn that was very well-received at Sundance. But the story goes that McKellan, after watching the film a goodly number of times ("the 40th time he saw it," was the way we heard it phrased, actually) remarked that some of the other actors had done pretty well, too.



Susan Leal

Just say Noe

Lesbian City Treasurer **Susan Leal** and her partner will soon be selling their home in Noe Valley and moving to the Jordan Park neighborhood. Want to know why? We're not telling, but it's an ugly story involving NIMBY neighbors. BAR writer and fellow Noe Valley homeowner **Robert Julian** says nothing surprises him anymore. He told us long ago by all rights it should be called "No!" Valley.



Husband-hunting

In **Patrick Price**'s new book *Husband Hunting Made Easy* (St. Martin's Griffin, \$12.95), we learn such helpful tips for the gay socially-impaired as "Dating Do's

page 40 ►

'Gag Reflex' at Josie's Cabaret

A generous helping of Marga Gomez

by Richard Dodds

Is there anyone who doesn't like Marga Gomez? I mean, her stage persona is so appealing — friendly and confident yet self-effacing — that only an ex-lover might not want to be her friend. But then again, at her recent opening at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, Gomez announced that her ex was in the audience, so it could be unanimous.

This likability is a considerable asset as Gomez works through her occasionally uneven new material during a run at Josie's, where she previously tried out a pair of one-woman shows about her exotic entertainer-parents that she eventually took to New York. The title of her new offering, *Gag Reflex*, is really a generic umbrella to cover the two quite different halves of the show, amounting to a generous offering of Gomez.

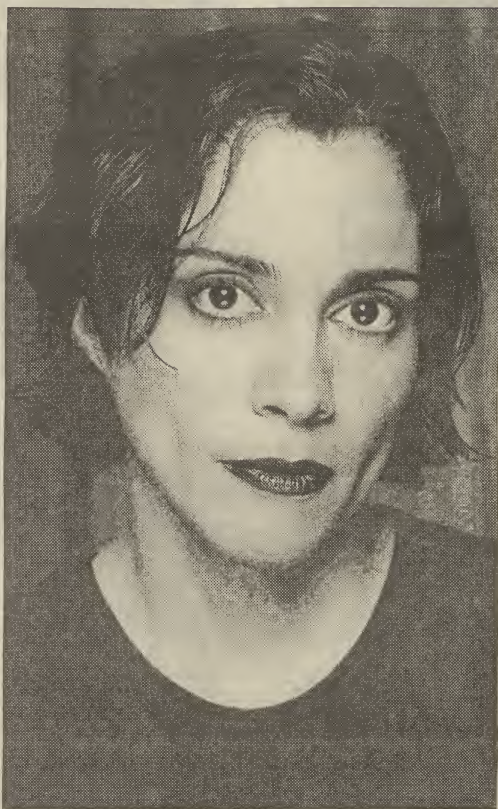
The first part actually has its own name. *Jaywalking* is a 25-minute excerpt from a one-woman show Gomez is developing about her life in Los Angeles as a Latina lesbian comedian struggling for her big break. After a 10-minute intermission, she returns for some rambling stand-up comedy that lets her play with the audience much more than she can in the highly structured opening segment.

In *Jaywalking*, Gomez talks about her Hollywood dreams (to be the first out lesbian on *Baywatch*), the indignities of Tinseltown (she watched while John Tesh got his star on Hollywood Boulevard), and her demons ("Jennifer Lopez stole my part"). She can take a well-mined subject, like being a pedestrian amid the auto culture of L.A., and give it a new slant, and she knows how to create absurdist mini-dramas from (presumably) actual experiences.

The piece needs some sharpening, especially if it's going to be expanded, but *Jaywalking* lets Gomez show off her skills as a versatile comic actress more than she can in her stand-up mode. Her manic explosion of self-reproach after a failed audition is a wonderful moment of physical comedy rooted in reality, and her description of taking the bus in L.A. has a nutty kind of you-are-there impact.

After the break, Gomez returns for some stand-up that is literally all over the place. She's at her best talking about San Francisco, especially from the point of view of someone who has moved away. On seeing the new Safeway on Market for the first time: "It was, like, a piece of shit for the longest time, and we were fine with it. We don't want Safeway to be a resort." She also gets good mileage out of the difference between being a lesbian in San Francisco and in Los Angeles: "Here, I could pass for a supervisor. In L.A., I'm Daddy."

Sometimes referring to her notes, Gomez is obviously feeling her way through much of her stand-up material. There are fumbles here and there, both in the jokes and in the delivery, but she is so comfortably casual on stage that they don't unsettle the audi-



Marga Gomez

ence. Gomez is the kind of performer who can shout, "Fuck me, white lady" — her fantasy reaction on meeting Sharon Stone — and make it sound sweet. ▼

Marga Gomez will be at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint through August 9. Tickets are \$10 and \$12 (or \$26 and \$28 with dinner). Call 861-7933.

Buddy on tour



On the heels of his new book *Buddy Babylon: The Autobiography of Buddy Cole*, comedian Scott Thompson appears at the comedy club Punchline, 444 Battery, Wednesday through Saturday, August 5-8. Thompson brings new tales from Buddy Cole, the acerbic barfly he played on *Kids in the Hall*. Ponder along with Buddy: "Fags and people. Will I ever understand why we're so different?" For times and tickets, call 397-7573. ▼

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'Nights of Cabiria' Fellini nights

by Gary Morris

It's rare for a movie director to inspire a new word, but by the 1970s, "Felliniesque" was a common synonym for the grotesque, the satirical, and the surreal. In the 1950s, long before the images that made him famous in this regard — *La Dolce Vita*'s flying Christ, *Juliet of the Spirit*'s lurid fantasies, *Satyricon*'s dying hermaphrodite and homosexual minotaur — Fellini was a major neorealist who would have rejected such dreamy indulgences.

The Nights of Cabiria (1957) is in some respects the crown jewel in his pre-"Felliniesque" work. While *I Vitelloni* (1953) is a more overt social critique and *La Strada* (1954) more widely known, Cabiria paints an arguably richer, more sweeping portrait of an outsider among outsiders. Just how rich can now be properly judged in a pristine restored print that also reinstates a crucial censored sequence known as "The Man with the Sack."

Cabiria, unforgettably portrayed by the director's wife,

Giulietta Masina, is a rather pathetic aging prostitute who plies her trade in a desolate red-light district outside Rome. In the opening scene, which lays out the moral universe in which Cabiria tries to survive, she's cavorting through a field in what looks like a romantic idyll with her boyfriend. But romance turns quickly to treachery and near-tragedy as he unceremoniously dumps her in the river and steals her purse. Surprisingly, after nearly dying, she reviles her saviors, curses her fate, and stumbles off in one high heel to the echoing words of a boy who explains to the others, "She's living the life."

"The life" she's stumbling off to is carried out in an unstable, post-industrial world of ravaged fields, broken cisterns, and the crumbling arches of the whore-ridden *Passeggiata Archeologica*, a pitiful reminder of the long-gone glory of Rome's past. She relies above all on a naive, unkillable sense of hope, but gets help from the only group in the film with a sense of community and caring, however fragile: the whores. Her friend Wanda (Fran-



Giulietta Masina in Fellini's *Nights of Cabiria*.

ca Marzi), particularly, rides out Cabiria's violent moods that inevitably come after one of her many misadventures.

Much of the film is a subtle study of class conflict, with Cabiria, in spite of owning a small cement house and having a bank account, in the lower ranks even of her fellow prostitutes. This doesn't prevent her sudden, brief rise in status in one of Fellini's most celebrated scenes, a bitter-sweet encounter with the famous actor Alberto Lazzari (Amedeo Nazzari). Everything good that their meeting implies is denied her, from a fancy feast of lobster and caviar to Alberto himself. When his girlfriend unexpectedly appears, he locks Cabiria in the bathroom where she sits until morning, when she sneaks her out with a few bucks. Fellini neatly sums up her situation architecturally; Lazzari's house is impossibly large and mazelike, causing Cabiria to lament out loud that she'll never get out.

Woman at the center

Fellini's structuring of his heroine's story as a series of incidents rather than a linear plot was innovative at the time, doubly so because examples of a woman at the center of a picaresque adventure are exceptionally rare. Part of the picaresque tradition, one that dovetails nicely with Fellini's own inclinations, is an anti-clericalism.

Nights of Cabiria is filled with such feeling. In a particularly grim sequence, Cabiria and some other friends join a pilgrimage to beg for redemption. This presumably solemn event turns out to be anything but, with pilgrims screaming and smashing into each other, hysterical pleas for cures unmet, and peddlers hawk-ing religious paraphernalia.

If this didn't bring on the wrath of the Catholic Church, another sequence did. In a scene that was cut in all but one French print, Cabiria, abandoned in a field, meets "the man with the sack." The man is an anonymous do-gooder; his sack is filled with bare necessities he gives to the literal "wretched of the earth" — people living in squalor in caves. Cabiria accompanies him on his silent journey, and sees her possible future when she meets a hooker she knew, once wealthy, now living in a hole in the ground. The Church was apparently so annoyed by the idea of a layman appropriating one of its activities that it got the scene cut. More to the point, perhaps, the Church disliked being shown it did nothing for its most hopeless constituents.

In another powerful sequence that reveals the depth of Cabiria's inner life, she's hypnotized in a seedy variety theater to believe she's an unspoiled young girl in a budding romance with an equally

idealized young man. Giulietta Masina's Chaplinesque movements, her masterfully simple pantomime of a desperately desired amour, cast a subtle spell that quiets the rowdy crowd of local males, just as it mesmerizes us as an audience. When she awakes, the crowd ruthlessly ridicules her for being an aging whore mimicking what she can never be — an "innocent." From there it's downhill all the way, though Cabiria maintains her dignity and fragile sense of hope even in the most dire circumstances, which come quickly in an extended, disastrous love affair.

Nights of Cabiria was Fellini's last film that tried to make sense of an increasingly fragmented, chaotic Italian society. In Masina's brilliant incarnation of the simple-minded, doomed prostitute — a character Fellini called the "fallen sister" of *La Strada*'s Gelsomina — he found an ideal vehicle for attacking the Church, the class system, movie star culture, and all the other forces destroying the lives of the people. With his next film, *La Dolce Vita*, his neorealist voice would become quieter; in a few years, it would vanish entirely as Fellini moved ever inward. ▼

Nights of Cabiria plays the Castro Theatre July 31-August 13. For showtimes, call 621-6120.

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BOOKS

Working Joe

by Gary Morris

Little Joe, Superstar: The Films of Joe Dallesandro by Michael Ferguson; Companion Press, \$18.95

Monique von Vooren was mesmerized by his "translucent skin"; Sylvia Miles called it "the warmest in the world." To Holly Woodlawn, he was "a nice guy" and "a real gentleman"; to Paul Morrissey, a "great actor" on par with John Wayne. Andy Warhol said, "In my movies, everyone's in love with Joe Dallesandro." Even stuffy rags like *The New York Times* were uncharacteristically earthy in their reaction: "His physique is so magnificently shaped that men as well as women become disconnected at the sight of him."

For legions of 1960s gay men, "Little Joe," as his famous bicep tattoo identifies him, was a fantasy fuck without peer, familiar initially from drool-inducing images in physique magazines and a few hardcore loops made before his "rise" to the underground at the Warhol Factory at the tender age of 18. Working-class Joe, born in 1948 and a product of New York's foster homes and reform schools, was unique among Warhol's menagerie of pathologically self-deluded, speed-talking "superstars." If most of them made up in personality what they lacked in looks or humanity, Joe was just the opposite — a sweet, shy, delightfully sexy cipher whose unflappable calm provided its own kind of campy counterpoint to Warhol's shrieking haridans and maniacal drag queens. While Mary Woronov, Viva Superstar, Holly Woodlawn, Ultra Violet, and others have extended their cinematic self-love-fest with an endless stream of autobiographies, Joe reversed the trend by staying mostly out of the public eye after the Warhol/Morrissey years.

Michael Ferguson's *Little Joe, Superstar: The Films of Joe Dallesandro*, then, comes as a surprise. Loosely modeled on the famous *The Films of...* series from Citadel Press, and heavily illustrated with pictures — including full-frontal nude — and poster art, this long-overdue book was made with its subject's cooperation, and features an almost alarmingly forthcoming Joe. In the biographical section at the beginning, he talks extensively about his troubled personal history. It's not hard to see Joe's enigmatic smile and quiet cockiness as a natural defensive response to having a mother in the state pen for auto theft, and father who cared but couldn't cope and put him and his siblings into foster homes. Growing up in Brooklyn and Long Island, Joe says he "started getting bad around 12 or 13" — brawling (often after remarks about his short stature, officially 5'6"), stealing cars, assaulting a school principal, and living on the streets, where he eventually turned to modeling and hustling to support himself.

No regrets

The book documents his problems with booze and drugs, his difficult marriages and hetero affairs, and his stormy relationship with Warhol and Morrissey. On the latter subject, Joe sensibly insists there's no reason for him to be bitter about being exploited in the eight films, from *The Loves of*

Onidne (1967) to *Blood for Dracula* (1974), they made together; after all, they made him famous. (This doesn't prevent him from calling Warhol's art "idiotic.") Ferguson draws an amusingly weird picture of the strange production circumstances of the films, with Warhol and Morrissey too cheap to use a decent camera or lights or a script or to pay their actors more than a pittance, even when the films were hits. He also lets Joe clear up some longstanding misconceptions — e.g., the idea that Joe was actually shooting drugs in *Trash*.

Ferguson authoritatively describes the films' worldwide reception and censorship problems, star tantrums and rivalries, and a group of shocked Arizona tourists who stumbled onto the set of *Lonesome Cowboys*, where the mock-rape of Viva by a bunch of New York queens dressed in Western drag brought out the law. The book uncovers ultra-rarities like the 1968 "AIP beach movie satire" *San Diego Surf* (with Joe, Viva, and Taylor

Mead). The fact that this was never released and isn't likely to be makes its appearance here welcome indeed. Devout cheapskates Warhol and Morrissey kept their major superstar busy when he wasn't making films for them, relegating him to Factory receptionist, handyman, and watchdog, aided by a stuffed Great Dane placed menacingly at the door.

His post-Factory career has a few highlights, including Louis Malle's *Black Moon* and Serge Gainsbourg's *Je T'aime Moi Non Plus*, but mostly it consists of low-budget European actioners, most of which (judging from the descriptions) failed to

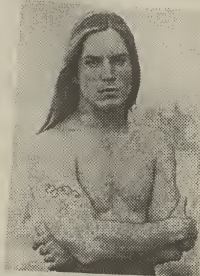
take advantage of what the Warhol/Morrissey films knew was Joe's lure: his tantalizing flesh. The

book devotes at least a page, and often more, to these obscurities.

Little Joe, Superstar supplies a lot of fresh information about his early career in Southern California exposing his charms for companies like Athletic Model Guild, but true aficionados will be disappointed — particularly given his admission here that he considers himself bisexual — that his hustling, porn work, and implied gay affairs are either glossed over or ignored. Still, with its energetic text, wealth of anecdotes, and numerous pics of our hero's mesmerizing smile and eternally erect nipples, *Little Joe, Superstar* is well worth the price. ▼

LITTLE JOE

THE FILMS OF JOE DALLESSANDRO



BY MICHAEL FERGUSON

SUPERSTAR

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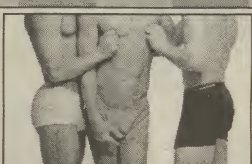


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Summerfest

by Aimée Ts'ao

Despite my several encounters with life-threatening illness, my greatest fear is that I will be bored to death. I value my time too much, strive to make the most of every situation, and choose endeavors which nurture, not drain, me. For that reason, I had avoided going to much of the Summerfest/Dance festival for the past few years unless I wanted to see friends perform, see their choreography, or check out a recommendation. From July 9th through the 26th, I dutifully trekked to Theatre Artaud to attend the entire series, and now I can see that my previous stance was justified. Out of the twenty-four choreographers' pieces that were presented, at least there were enough good works and dancers to warrant this review. While about half of the choreography I would prefer to forget, easily done since it wasn't memorable to begin with, another third was good, solid work which I enjoyed, and the best sixth is discussed below.

My list of the best pieces is quite short: AXIS Dance Company's *Ta Kala July*, Tomi Paasonen's "X," a company collaboration directed by Shelley Trott and Austin Forbord, and Janice Garrett's *Of Tongues and Tails*.

If you have never seen AXIS Dance Company, don't miss them



Dancers Nora Heiber and Maurya Kerr in Tomi Paasonen's X

the next time they are performing. This troupe of able-bodied and disabled dancers creates truly transcendent work. The point is not about what dancers of different abilities can or cannot do, it is that whatever anyone does on stage is performed with the greatest commitment, focus, tenderness, and vulnerability possible. The choreography itself is a constant unraveling and unveiling of possibilities, a blending of movement textures and shapes. It seems as if working with the physical limitations of some of the dancers has necessitated discovering more innovative ways of making ideas and feelings visible.

Choreographers for the able-bodied should take note, as often their work, which has the possibility to use much more variety on the physical plane, ends up appearing meager next to this choreography. I was particularly moved by Uli Schmitz's performance in *Ta Kala July*, propelling himself across the floor, having abandoned his wheelchair somewhere backstage, partnering another dancer, courageously pushing himself beyond the audience's preconceived limit of what he should be able to do.

Classical satire

Tomi Paasonen is a choreographer to look out for in the future. His impressive performing career with the German Hamburg Ballet, San Francisco's Lines Contemporary Ballet, and the Joffrey Ballet is temporarily on hold while he is recovering from a neck injury. Fortunately, his artistic energies have found an outlet in choreography. Over the past several years he has presented a handful of works and is developing a loyal following. At Summerfest/Dance, he premiered his latest piece, "X." Once again, he reveals his skill at combining dance, movement, costume, music, and text into a cohesive whole. Paasonen never settles for less, and even more importantly, he never bores the audience. In this satire of classical ballet, he employs dancers from his days with Lines to great effect. He understands that you must use dancers who can actually dance the classics, or else the

piece becomes a parody of itself. In writing his own text, he amazes me, as English is not his first or even second language. The plays on words and general sophistication of usage follow in the footsteps of such writers as Conrad, Nabokov, and Codrescu, who were not native speakers, yet capture our imagination. Don't forget that name, Paasonen.

I usually don't care much for contact improvisation, but seeing *RAPT*, a choreographic collaboration of five dancers under the direction of Shelley Trott and Austin Forbord, shows that using it as one element in combination with others, and not an end in itself, can be very exciting. This group has managed in a few short months to develop a solid internal rapport, which gives its performance a sharp edge, split-second timing, impeccable ensemble work, and driving energy. The content of this work-in-progress needs to be developed more, but the potential for a truly successful piece is definitely there. I look forward to seeing the results in the near future.

Of Tongues and Tails by Janice Garrett, to music by Meredith Monk, was a delight. The choreography matched the complex layering of the score, and the dancers incorporated a sense of fun into their precise execution. I appreciated the intelligence of this well-crafted and playful piece. Garrett uses a wonderful vocabulary of gestures, mixes them up, extrapolates them, and recycles them, all within a discernible structure, which made this exploration of human interactions all the more satisfying.

Summerfest/Dance serves an important function on the performance scene, since it provides a place for independent choreographers to show their work. Choreography is not something that can be done privately, as Emily Dickinson did with her poetry. It needs to be performed, so that its creators can see what works and what doesn't, and the audience can give feedback. However, the half-empty houses at Summerfest show that audience development needs some assistance. Perhaps having programs

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BOOKS

One pilgrim's progress

by Jameson Currier

A *Pilgrim's Way* by Walter C. Righter; Knopf, \$22

There is a great earnestness to *A Pilgrim's Way* by Walter C. Righter, the retired Episcopal bishop of Iowa who now resides in New Hampshire with his wife. Righter was the 72-year-old man of the cloth who was the focal point of the nationally publicized heresy trial brought against him for ordaining Barry Stopfel, an openly gay man in a committed relationship, to the diaconate, the first rung of clerical orders in the Episcopal Church. It was not the first ordination of an openly gay person, nor even the first highly publicized one, but in January

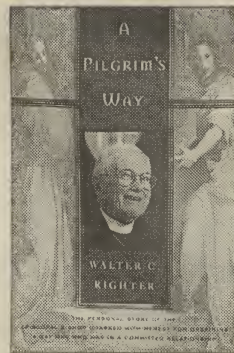
1995, a small group of fellow bishops seized a political opportunity and filed heresy charges against Righter for his action. Righter then became only the second person ever to be tried for such behavior in the church's 200-year history.

Righter explains the inner, and often inglorious, workings of the House of Bishops. (There are around 300 bishops in the Episcopal Church, and as Righter notes, they are a disparate group in regards to their individual beliefs and the reflected concerns of their congregations.) *A Pilgrim's Way* candidly shows a ministry steeped in politics and self-serving interpretation of doctrine, as Righter becomes the unwilling victim of a handful of clergy resistant to social change.

The author recounts here the 1995 accusation of teaching false

doctrine, the long wait for the process to unfold, the harassment, the hearings, the outpouring of support, the media attention, and the church court's eventual finding that no "core doctrine" had been violated. Unfortunately, as delightful as it is to witness the church's backstage machinations unfold like an episode of *Dynasty*, the telling falls flat. Righter summons up a strong supporting cast, including the 10 conservative bishops who accused him, and the nine members of the Ecclesiastical Court who tried him, yet none are given any distinctive characteristics that would make the tale absorbing reading.

However, Righter does winningly reveal that his opponents badly misjudged both his devotion to his church and the basic integrity of that institution. "It is



still true that the subject of homosexuality and marriage between same-sex partners touches deep concerns in many, and raises anger and hostility in others," the bishop writes. "We have to stay engaged in conversation about that. The church needs to be clear about its mission and ministry to gay and lesbian people." *A Pilgrim's Way* also shares the insights Righter gained about the link between misogyny and homophobia in this denomination, and the intermingling of those two issues by the church's hierarchy throughout the latter part of this century.

Ultimately, it is the aforementioned earnestness which emerges as the most potent force in this narrative. It's evident in the compassionate response of churchgoers to Righter's situation — from the fam-

ily who sent in \$500 to the Righter Defense Fund instead of buying Christmas presents for one another, to the church worker who made T-shirts for Righter and his wife with the message: "You are surrounded by our love and prayers."

Episcopalians make up a small percentage of American Christians — about 2.5 million — but their influence far exceeds their numbers. Like its parent institution, the Church of England, the Episcopal Church has always retained something of the character of a national church. At a time when mainline Protestant churches are still struggling with the issue of homosexuality within their ministries and the religious right is continually depicting gay people as godless, *A Pilgrim's Way* is a welcome contribution to moving Christianity forward to a greater inclusiveness and acceptance of its gay and lesbian constituency. Righter has provided a stirring example of an unshakable faith that it must be possible. ▼

Jameson Currier is a member of the National Book Critics Circle and the author of the novel *Where the Rainbow Ends*, forthcoming this fall from The Overlook Press.

Tales from the South

by Sandi Levine

On the Occasion of My Last Afternoon by Kaye Gibbons; G. P. Putnam's Sons, \$22.95

On the Occasion of My Last Afternoon, the fifth published novel of masterful Southern writer Kaye Gibbons, is the fictional memoir of Emma Garnet Tate Lowell, a rich, white, intelligent, analytical Southern lady, spanning her life from age 12 in 1842 to her exhausted, genteel, final days almost 60 years later.

We witness the first five years with Emma as her family and its enslaved workforce cope with, and maneuver around, the controlling clamberings of an energetic and often physically cruel father/master, Samuel P. Tate. The patriarch bullies, works, and wills his kingdom, Seven Oaks, up from its swampy Virginia beginnings to match the grandness of his endless materialist hunger. At seventeen, Emma is whisked away by her Northern doctor husband, Quincy Lowell, to North Carolina, where they spend a blissful domestic decade. The Civil War disrupts their idyll, and side by side, they consume themselves with treating the wounded and surviving the powerfully-depicted devastation of their previous way of life. Throughout the saga, various family members join the Lowell household or the great hereafter, not necessarily in that order. Emma undertakes many charitable works and lovingly describes her children. This summary is not meant to disparage the highly involving telling by the talented author, I just don't want to give anything away.

Clearly, Ms. Gibbons can do anything she wants with the written word, for she balances the narrator's individual experience with historical detail, generally keeping it an interesting element of the plot and characters' evocation, rather than the educational overload some historical novels can lean towards. I don't really want to know

how to build an accordion, or skin a buck, but many authors choose to teach me while they tell me their tale. Ms. Gibbons manages to slip her lessons in more easily, wrapped in the delicate beauty of her often profound prose.

Life stories

Imagine an extended plane flight while seated next to an articulate elderly lady who happens to have her life-long photo album with her. She tells a series of stories: some are highly personal and emotionally moving, some are superficial, or laundry lists of her accomplishments and good deeds or those of her loved ones — meant to impress rather than disclose. Some of the tales are more compelling than others, but the overall experience is an entertaining and well-executed one, and she definitely enhances the flight.

There are difficult aspects of this book — not the elegant writing, but the constraints of the limited view and simplistic, fairy-tale tone of Emma Garnet's narrative voice. Emma's husband is a non-sexist, nonracist, handsome, brilliant, wealthy, Northern, medical innovator Prince Charming who gives Emma nothing but joy. Emma's mother is a Beauty who is sacrificed by her impoverished, refined family to Emma's father, the Beast. And the resourceful, protective fairy godmother buffer between the Beast and the narrator's family is Clarice, the selfless servant whose actions are saintly and motivations a mystery.

There are no multidimensional, African American characters in this novel. Clarice's "mission was not to change history but to help both black and white prevail over the circumstances of living in that place, the South, in our time. She worked with the consequences dealt her by others in the travails of her race ... she was dignity itself." She is also the character with the most interesting story to tell in this novel. On the eve of her sixteenth birthday, the daughter of a freed black woman about to be

cast off by her family, Clarice attaches herself to the father as a pitiful 8-year-old beggar. She devotes the rest of her life to serving first him, then his family, then his daughter's family, and finally a sea of injured Confederate soldiers. Simultaneously, she manages to use her intelligence, wit and insight to help her community survive slavery and the whims of fate. I wish Ms. Gibbons had used her imaginative gift to present the complexity and depth of Clarice's experience in conjunction with the privileged perspective of Emma Garnet. But I'm sure there are many readers who will enjoy this book as it is, as a pleasant afternoon with an interesting, thoughtful lady from the American past. ▼

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Summerfest

◀ previous page

on two successive weekends would give time for reviews and word-of-mouth to bring in more viewers. Maybe lowering ticket prices to the equivalent of a movie would bring in more bodies. A full

house at half-the-price equals half-a-house at the current admission. A more stringent selection process would bring up the performance standard, and the festival's improved reputation would draw in the curious who aren't willing to gamble. Finally, how about a final weekend of the very best pieces of the season? ▼

MUSIC

Talk with turtles



The Turtle Island String Quartet will offer a free "musical conversation" and performance on Wednesday, August 5, at 5:30 p.m. at the San Francisco Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. The eclectic ensemble features David Balakrishnan on violin and baritone violin; Evan Price on violin; Danny Seidenberg on viola and violin; and cellist Mark Summer. For information, call Stern Grove Festival at 252-6252. ▼

Pansexuals 'r' us

by Liz Highleyman

The Leather Daddy and the Femme
by Carol Queen; Cleis Press, \$14

San Francisco author and sex educator Carol Queen is best known for her nonfiction, including her previous books *Exhibitionism for the Shy* and *Real Live Nude Girl*. In her first novel, *The Leather Daddy and the Femme*, she has taken the opportunity to let her erotic imagination roam more freely.

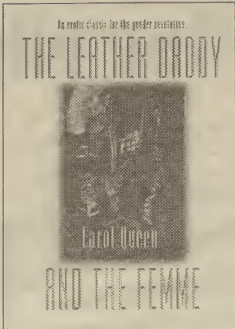
The Leather Daddy and the Femme rides the current wave of interest in all things having to do with genderbending and orientation-tweaking, and Queen delights in playing with the boundaries of sexual orientation and gender identity. Her cast of characters includes a femme bisexual woman who likes to play the role of a boy, a gay leather daddy who is seduced by the femme, a queer bisexual leatherman who is the daddy's partner, a butch dominatrix who is the bisexual leatherman's mistress, a male-to-female sex worker who becomes the dominatrix's slave, and a cross-dressing boytoy who plays with almost everyone else.

The story begins with femme Miranda, in boy drag, cruising leather daddy Jack Prosper on his motorcycle and following him home for a night of hot sex, followed by a bit of role-reversal the next morning. The ensuing chapters involve further exploits of the twosome and their various friends and lovers. Queen's novel

is highly pansexual (although there is no conventional heterosexual activity to speak of), and many erotic kinks are represented, including a dungeon gangbang, a pickup in a "working girl" drag bar, and an interesting, if improbable, episode with a chihuahua. Queen's book makes for fine one-handed reading — the explicit sex begins on the second page and rarely lets up.

Several chapters of *The Leather Daddy and the Femme* have appeared over the years as short stories in magazines (*Black Sheets*, *Taste of Latex*) and anthologies (*Best Gay Erotica 1996*, *Best Lesbian Erotica 1997*), and at times the novel reads more like a collection of stories than a single coherent work. There are even a couple of chapters (including a dyke three-way in a bar bathroom) that seem as if they were written as completely separate pieces and made to fit into the novel by means of a brief introductory paragraph ("Tell me about your wildest time," Jack asks Miranda.)

At 138 pages, the book does not have the space for a great deal of character development. I would have welcomed the opportunity to get into the characters' heads and learn more about their history and their lives — what do these people do when they're not having sex? Not surprisingly, my favorite character is Demetrius (the aforementioned queer bisexual leatherman), whose history and background the reader learns the most about. At a recent reading, Queen mentioned that her publisher had asked her to delete two chapters that were all



talk and no action; it may well be true that most people don't want too much plot or character development cluttering up their stroke material. The upside of this is that the novel is remarkably free of angst and identity politics. Most of the characters play with a variety of genders, but spend very little time worrying about what labels best describe them.

One chapter that I'm glad Queen retained has Miranda in bed with Jack and Demetrius as they regale her with tales of the "golden age" of the San Francisco gay male leather community in the 1970s. This is fascinating historical material, and I'm glad Queen found a way to work it in.

The Leather Daddy and the Femme ends without any major denouement, more like the end of a chapter than the end of the book. This is not surprising, given the novel's collection-of-stories nature, but I finished feeling a lack of closure. Fortunately, Queen has left herself plenty of opportunity to provide us with further adventures of Miranda, Jack, and their friends in the future. ▼



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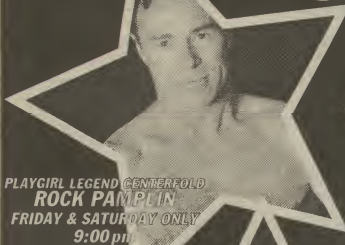
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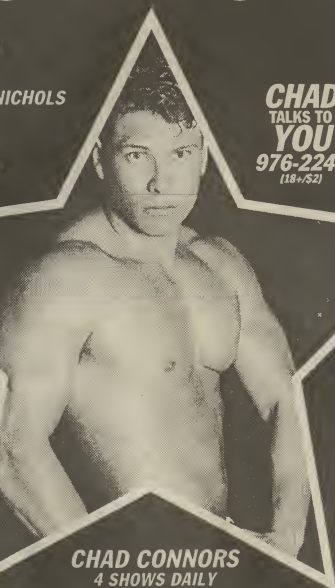
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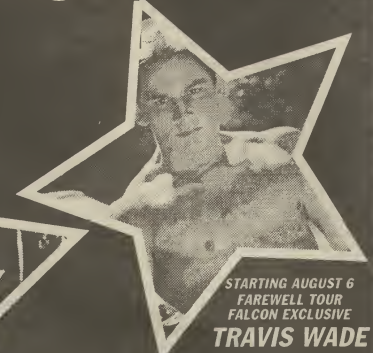
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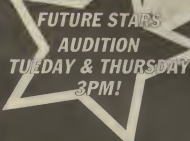
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COVER STORY

Our stories

◀ Arts cover

sponse to multiple loss were in place in San Francisco. Tom Grothe and Leon McKusick, social workers and front-line veterans of the epidemic, looked to psychologist Victor Frankl, the father of logotherapy, and his principles of creating meaning out of loss, drawn from his experiences during the Holocaust. "Through creativity or human connection," they wrote, "[we] can help those overwhelmed by multiple losses remain involved in life." When I looked at the San Francisco model of AIDS treatment, despite the problems, I could still see this creativity.

Continued participation in community life is an essential component of recovery from loss. One of my first interviewees, Robert Boulangier, recalled the days after his lover died: "It wasn't long after that I heard about the first group for people who are HIV-positive. John Kraus had lost his lover Frank Laborko. These guys were very talented. They had built a house up on a hill there, took a Victorian, and redone it into a modern palace. It was just fabulous. One was a designer, and one was an architect. Frank had died, and John realized that he knew a lot of people around him

the '70s, when it was all still new. Artist Robin Tichane, a longtime San Francisco resident, recalled the climate when he left the East Coast for San Francisco:

"I was in New York in 1970, and it was a joke. Gay politics in New York at the time of Stonewall was nothing — zero. I came out here, and there were gay politicians. Harvey Milk was trying to run for supervisor. Hongisto would go to gay drag balls. He would have his photo taken with a drag queen on either arm, and it would make the paper. There was something called the Society for Individual Rights. All that happened in San Francisco in the '50s, 20 years ahead of the East Coast or anywhere else."

Harvey Milk was credited by my interviewees with being the first one to mobilize the gay community in San Francisco. Many of them recalled the efforts necessary to fight off Anita Bryant and the first incarnations of the Christian Right as found in the Briggs Initiative to "Save Our Schools" (from homosexuality).

Former Harvey Milk intern and Names Project founder Cleve Jones reflected: "The time of Harvey Milk was when it all gelled. The riot was a declaration of existence. We are here, we have come this far, and no, we will not ever allow you to turn back the clock. It's such a weird little twist of fate



Harvey Milk and the Before Years figured greatly in the oral histories.

I talked to a man whose dementia intensified between sessions. At the end of the final interview, he stopped, got up, and vomited. When he sat back down, he stared earnestly at me and said, "Ben, if you can do anything, tell the world this isn't a joke." He died

two months later.

On Christmas Eve 1994, novelist/essayist Fenton Johnson addressed the need for our secular culture to allow itself room to ponder the mysteries behind these deaths and lives ("Death Into Life" in the *New York Times*). His

call for memories of lost friends and a place for storytelling speaks a great deal about what is missing in our celebrity-obsessed culture: "I remember a story of someone gone from my life, and tell it to somebody else, and in the telling of that story take my proper and necessary place in the chain of being."

Through the storytelling process, the grieving, the laughing, this cycle of being, we preserve the memory of the quieter voices behind one of the most important social histories of our time. As we witness them, these voices help illuminate the reality that behind each of these deaths lived a human being with a tale to tell. ▼

Benjamin Heim Shepard is a social worker moonlighting as a social historian. This excerpt is part of *White Nights and Ascending Shadows: An Oral History of the San Francisco AIDS Epidemic* (Cassell Press). Shepard works as a senior counselor at Issan House in N.Y. He will read from his book at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro, on Monday, August 3 at 7:30 p.m.

The San Francisco AIDS story my interviewees told was a tale of people finding meaning in loss through continued participation in community life.

who had lost their lovers... and there was no support group for lovers." The group would be called the Merry Widows. It became an integral part of Robert's life. It was here that he found his next job and lover.

For many people, the ensuing years of the AIDS epidemic would involve the struggle to preserve memories of the departed while persevering within the present. One interviewee, Arthur Fisher, who died in 1994, noted: "When I am in a good place, the people who have died, these are friends and companions who, though they are gone, in a way I still have. I have the sense of them and our experience kind of keeping me company. It can be very strengthening. It all depends on how I am looking at it in the given emotional state at the time."

As a two-hour interview progressed, I would watch disparate elements of an individual reveal themselves. On a good day, these pieces of a full self would eventually come together. Psychotherapist William Borden has written, "Each person becomes a historian of the self, developing an internally consistent interpretation of the life cycle so that past, present, and future are experienced as congruent." Psychotherapist Veronica Kast suggests that clinicians help their clients to recall past good times or to co-author autobiographies of joy. The point is that through re-experiencing these memories, people learn to re-create moments of joy and connection.

Milk and community memory

In my interviews, Harvey Milk and the Before Years became major topics of discussion. These recollections centered on the great gay migration to San Francisco in

that right at that point, as we got there, then..." Eighteen months after the White Night Riots, men from the Castro began getting sick with a strange new cancer.

Building on Milk's legacy

From Harvey Milk and the 1970s, PWAs would go on to recall first hearing about the virus, and then the community organizing necessary to combat the new epidemic. The infrastructure Milk helped organize would be crucial in the San Francisco response. Over the next decade, San Franciscans would create and volunteer for a whole slew of grassroots AIDS service organizations. Federal aid would eventually be distributed along the lines of "The San Francisco Model" of community AIDS care. The San Francisco AIDS story my interviewees told was a tale about people finding meaning in loss through continuing participation in community life.

Jones elaborated: "It's been quite strange to watch the power of our community grow as a result of the epidemic. People don't like to admit it, but the fact is gay and lesbian people have much more power in this country than ever before because of the AIDS epidemic, because of the fact that America has come to know its gay and lesbian children as we've gotten sick and died. I still get blown away when I see 300,000 people at Gay Pride Marches... So now I see an enormous potential that we have. But people don't quite accept the stakes."

As AIDS evolves, perhaps the most significant task ahead is never forgetting the terrible costs and lessons it has brought this community.

Telling their story

Early in the interview process,

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hood came early as well. "Three weeks after I came out, I slept with my first women, and I thought, 'Now I can get pregnant.' I always wanted kids but I never wanted a husband. I had my first kid [she has two sons, ages 21 and 13] when I was 34. That was when I made the commitment to myself to do a book." The book, targeted for Mother's Day, 2000, is tentatively titled *Lesbian Mothering: An Everyday Affair*.

Finding subjects is not a problem. "There are millions of lesbian moms and their kids. I decided to focus on the question, 'What do mothers really do when they're doing good mothering?' One point I wanted to make is that lesbians have been raising kids for a long time." A lesbian mom herself, Cade sees that as "a blessing. I wanted to be a mom to deepen my life. I used to live on the surface, but dealing with life-and-death issues have that effect. You're suddenly aware you have something incredibly valuable you could lose."

Patchwork quilt

For photographer Barbara Seyda, the beginning of the project that would become *Women in Love: Photographs of Lesbian Mothers and Their Families* (photographs and interviews by Barbara Seyda and Diana Herrera; Little, Brown, \$29.95) was a Thanksgiving dinner. She explains in the book's introduction: "*Women in Love* began in 1993 as a small seed inside a country farmhouse in New Mexico. It was Thanksgiving, and

Diana and I were sitting in old rocking chairs watching the evening unfold like a postmodern Norman Rockwell painting: the background music was Hip Hop, the children were a patchwork quilt of radiant faces from around the world, and the women setting the table were all lesbian moms."

When we speak on the phone, Seyda continues the story: "I was a freelance writer and photographer, becoming more and more frustrated with various publications — frustrated artistically, editorially, personally. I asked myself, what can I do to contribute to the community, to photography, to the photography of families." The project was a joint operation for Seyda and her life partner, Diana Herrera. "We collaborated 50-50. All decisions — financial, editorial, artistic — were shared. We're going to do more together, after we take a little time off. When things looked bleak, it was Diana who would say, 'Let's rekindle the spirit of the project,' and we would go on. From the beginning, we set highest standards for the production values. Gay men have so many



Juin Charnell with Jade, Justin, Joi, and Jenna, in a 1997 photograph by Barbara Seyda

people's lives."

I can attest to the radiance in this book. What's unusual for a photography book, I think, is

found myself grinning with sheer delight. These are our stories, told with care, illustrated with photographs that are worth con-

searing. The children, many of whom were excited about the journey because they'd never been on a train, soon learned that detention camp was no picnic. "It was a funny feeling. We would look up and the sky was so beautiful at night — and the coyotes howling... such a lonely feeling, wondering if anyone cared. Here we were abandoned, forgotten, thrown away... It was an awful feeling." — Kiyo Sato, age 17, Heart Mountain Detention Camp, Wyoming, August, 1942.

If you think concentration camps can't happen here, you owe it to yourself to see what happened just fifty years ago, when those in power decided their hate meant more than any constitutional guarantee. The parallels to the Christian Wrong's obvious plans for queers, feminists, Jews, and any other group they don't like are obvious enough to make me very certain that this is the wrong year to vote for any Republicans. Don't miss either exhibit. They will change your life. ▼

Constitutional niceties like due process and probable cause were sacrificed on the altar of racism, and 120,000 Japanese Americans were interned, 1/3 of them under 15, because they were not white.

gorgeous books. We [lesbians] should have dozens of books to choose from. I wanted the book to be stunning visually, important historically, and meaningful to

that the text, stories of the pictured families, can stand alone as a finely wrought narrative of lesbian generations. I've read the book twice, and each time I

siderably more than a thousand words. *Women in Love* is a book to treasure.

Still shocking

While I was at the Main to see lesbian moms, I also saw *A More Perfect Union*, a stunning exhibit concerning the American internment of Japanese-Americans during WWII. The statistics are still shocking. Constitutional niceties like due process and probable cause were sacrificed on the altar of racism, and 120,000 Japanese Americans were interned, 1/3 of them under 15 years of age, for one reason — they were not white.

If you want to know what happens when hate wins, you must see this exhibit. The photos of children behind barbed wire are

Lesbian Family Portraits runs through August 15. *A More Perfect Union* runs through August 6. Both shows are at the San Francisco Public Library, 100 Larkin Street.

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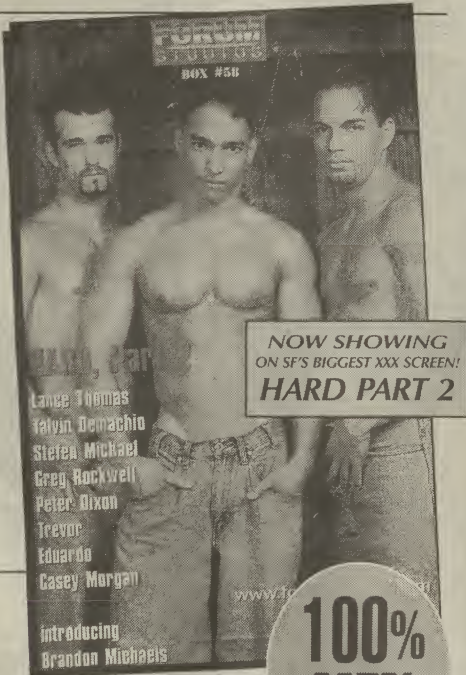
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BOOKS

Family plot

by Deborah Peifer

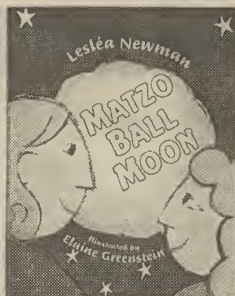
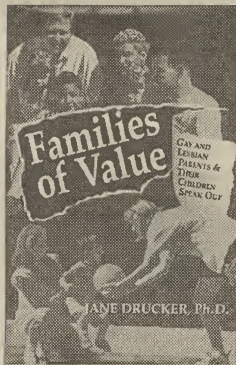
Families of Value by Jane Drucker, Ph.D.; Insight, \$27.95

Matzo Ball Moon by Leslea Newman; illustrated by Elaine Greenstein; Clarion, \$15

Remember That by Leslea Newman; illustrated by Karen Ritz; Clarion, \$14.95

The current Republican assault on gays and lesbians frames itself as a defense of the family, that nuclear experiment of the twentieth century that so many of us recall with fear and loathing. Family, though, everywhere except among the righteous wrong, has more to do with love than biology, with personal connection rather than genetic identification. In her very fine study of gay and lesbian parents and their children, *Families of Value*, Jane Drucker explores the ways that queers of every variety are making families and changing the world while they do it.

A foreword by Rabbi Harold M. Schulweis starts things off right, with a clear explanation of the infamous abomination passage in Leviticus: "Scholars have long puzzled as to the meaning of the sentence, 'Thou shalt not lie with mankind as with woman; it is an abomination.' Over the centuries, scholars have recognized that there were sexual practices that were abominable because



they were part of a system of 'sacred prostitution.' It is not at all clear as to what the abomination was all about in ancient times. It is abundantly clear that one cannot visit the iniquities of the past upon the present." About the gays and lesbians who come to him, he continues: "The Talmud says, 'You have to judge according to that which you see with your own eyes.' What do I see with my own eyes? I see honest, decent, God-fearing, loving men and women." Take that, Southern Baptists!

Families of Value is really two books — first, a theoretical exploration of families and how they function — indeed, prosper — in sometimes adverse circumstances. It is also a collection of the stories

of those family members. Everybody gets to talk: kids, parents, exes, and to share their experiences of being different in a culture that prizes conformity. Drucker looks at the ways that the reality of family life challenges the right's fantasy of the ideal family (white, straight and patriarchal). The theoretical sections are pleasingly free of jargon, and the inclusion of her own story makes this a very personal scholarly text. Topics range from defining the family and creating familial bonds to making our way in the larger community.

Robert Frost said it best: "Home is the place where, when you have to go there, when you have to take you in./ I should have called it/ Something you somehow haven't to deserve." We queers have been making our own families for a long time with very little help. *Families of Value* offers convincing proof that families endure, and helps to remind us that we are not alone.

Kid's-eye view

If your family of choice includes children, or your friend's does, two fine books by Leslea Newman depict family life from a kid's-eye view and will entertain young and old readers alike. *Passover is Judaism's quintessential family holi-*



day. *Matzo Ball Moon* is a Passover story in which Bubbe's matzo balls disappear at an alarming rate, owing to just how much everyone loves to eat them. Newman provides enough information so that non-Jews will understand the religious references, but believers and nonbelievers will delight in this tale of good food and good family.

Remember That is a touching story of aging, as a young girl watches her beloved grandmother grow old. As Bubbe makes the adjustment from living on her own to living with her daughter to moving into a nursing home, her granddaughter learns that the essence of her grandmother's love and wisdom is not altered by changes in her living arrangements. As our families age, we'll all be facing the conundrums that Newman's characters encounter. May we show as much grace and courage as they do. ▼

Town and country

by Deborah Peifer

Rafferty Street by Lee Lynch; New Victoria, \$10.95

The Naked Eye by Catherine Ennis; Naiad, \$11.95

I haven't been a great fan of Lee Lynch in the past, so her new novel, *Rafferty Street*, kept moving mysteriously to the bottom of my reading pile. When I finally picked it up, however, I found the greatest difficulty in putting it down. *Rafferty Street* continues the adventures of the characters from *Dusty's Queen of Hearts Diner* and *Morton River Valley*, but it stands powerfully on its own as a look at small-town life when the queers come out to play.

Annie is a burned-out butch who has been mugged too many times in New York to continue living there. She comes to the Valley seeking the blissful life of laid-back lesbians and their friendly straight neighbors. Friendly, that is, until a developmentally disabled woman kisses Annie, convincing the local religious righteous that she is a dangerous pervert, preying on the

innocent. Annie's decision to stand and fight, despite a life-long willingness to disappear, is an important part of this novel. But there is much more. Annie's fight forces the queers of the community both out and in the closet to stand with her, or to retire to the closet as gutless cowards and let the enemy carry the day.

Lynch sets up credible situations involving her well-developed characters, and their interactions are entertaining and thought-provoking. Her characters range widely in age and class and attitude, and the result is a community that rings with truth. I especially liked her refusal to make anyone's decision easy or obvious — kind of like life, don't you know. *Rafferty Street* is a great summer read, with enough substance to qualify for the fall as well.

New twist on old plot

Catherine Ennis has taken the mystery plot from her earlier novel, *Time and Time Again*, given it a twist, and put it into *The Naked Eye*. This is a good thing, because the mystery which did not work at all in *Time* works on several levels in *Naked*.

Katherine Duncan is a wildlife photographer whose one disastrous lesbian relationship has pretty much convinced her to rethink the whole dyke thing. A move to New Orleans, to escape the violence of her ex (one of those nobody-leaves-me types), leads her straight, or at least gaily forward, into the arms of the gorgeous and sensual Marlena. After a few close calls, and some very interesting hauntings involving the aforementioned mystery, happiness and justice prevail, with the good ending happily and the bad unhappily, which is, as dear Oscar Wilde said, what fiction means.

The Naked Eye has a lot of plotlines for so few pages, but Ennis manages to tie them all up credibly, and even offers a few insights along the way. She uses scenery effectively, and her minor characters are sufficiently fleshed out to make them memorable. The love story of Katherine and Marlena is the heart of the novel, of course, and Ennis provides plenty of juicy sex and relationship angst, both of which serve to anchor this ghostly romance in a kind of reality. Read this one for fun. ▼

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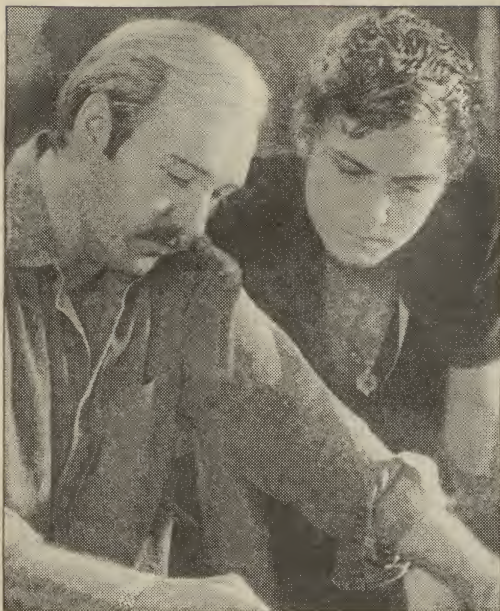
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Kevin Spacey and Jude Law in *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*

Round Midnight

by Will Shank

Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil, written by John Lee Hancock, directed by Clint Eastwood; distributed by Warner Bros.

If the still-best-selling novel is poetry (and not all readers are in agreement about this), the movie is prose. *Midnight* is an excellent example of what happens when a straight guy tries, and fails, to get gay material right. Kevin Spacey is almost acceptable as novelist John Berendt's lead homo, but Director Eastwood proves himself to be especially ham-fisted as he manipulates the tale of

closeted homosexual intrigue in Savannah, trying to make it digestible for Middle America. And in one of the great ironies of cinematic history, the outrageous Lady Chablis (who is given *far* too much time on screen) turns in a completely incompetent performance as herself.

As Good As It Gets, written by Mark Andrus and James L. Brooks, directed by James L. Brooks; a Tri Star Picture.

As Good As It Gets has a lot going for it. It gives Jack Nicholson the role of a lifetime as a curmudgeonly Manhattan writer with an unkind word for every-

served her Best Actress Oscar as the waitress who is just barely making ends meet. The gay characters fare less well, however. Greg Kinnear, with frosted hair, portrays a New York painter as a naive, wide-eyed puppy dog until he is victimized by violence in his own home. After that, he is The Victim all the way to the final reel. Cuba Gooding, Jr. fares slightly better as his feisty art dealer, but all of the clichés of gay urban life are in place for the audience to savor. Happily, the leading characters are more fully drawn, the screenplay funny and poignant, the direction taut, and the film ultimately provides an irreverent, savvy, and touching cinematic experience. ▼

Out There

◀ page 30

and Don'ts" and "Like the Plague (Men to Avoid)," rather an unfortunate turn of phrase, we do think. We also learn that "a husband is *not* a boyfriend." Price contends, with an evolution-style boyfriend-evolving-into-husband illustration by *Ethan Green* cartoonist **Eric Orner** to drive home the point, that boyfriends are merely "husband larvae."

When we told our boyfriend **Thing** that he was a larvae, he responded, "Good, as long as I can be a larvae sundae." The question for us is, if **Thing** were to further evolve, would we want to be there?

Executive surveillance

Before we went into artist **Martin Kersels'** show *Commotion* at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, we lingered for a moment or two outside, where we could view his piece *Director's Office* (*Day and Night*) proceeding in real time on a video monitor. A surveillance camera in Yerba Buena Center executive director **John Killacky's** office is trained on his desk 24/7, so we can spy on him whenever we want to. That morning Killacky appeared to be on the phone, for rather a while.

Inside, the offerings from Kersels, who began his career as a performance artist and incorporates that performance ethic into his visual art, appealed to us greatly. Not just his *Tripping Photos*, in which he photographed the reactions of innocent bystanders when he took staged pratfalls on



Objects of the Dealer (with sound tracks), by Martin Kersels, 1995

the sidewalks of L.A. Not just *Objects of the Dealers* with *Sound-track*, in which he outfitted his art dealer's desk with a tape dispenser, Rolodex, etc. fitted with speakers so that they activate music whenever they're used. Our favorite Kerselsiana involved a waterproof speaker submerged in a jar of water which broadcasts, "I am trying to raise the temperature of this water by yelling at it," while a highly accurate thermometer records any resulting minute change in temperature.

When we left the building, Killacky was still on the phone. The water was still at room temperature. *Commotion: Martin Kersels* continues at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts through August 23. Call 978-ARTS.

Men in sandals

Just like **Andy Warhol**, we'd go to the opening of an envelope. But we never thought we'd find ourselves at a reception for the working press which was held at a shoe store. Yet there we were at the unveiling of the new Birkenstock line, deep in the bowels of

the footwear company's flagship Union Square store. We do love a man in an open-toed shoe, and at this affair even the cocktail waiters were wearing Birks. We could have a foot massage from a licensed reflexologist, we could schmooze with the editors of *Shoe Fit* magazine, we could enjoy the sight of Industry children playing with giant Legos in a kind of closed-off pit. By our third glass of bubbly, we wanted into the playpen and at the Lego.

To prove, as Birkenstock president **Margot Fraser** remarked, that "We're not just a hippie shoe," members of the press were invited to choose a free pair and get fitted upstairs. This generous offer brought out previously underground segments of the mass media. Wasn't that *Girlfreak* editor **Roxie Rosen** and several of her gal pals who work for free advertising circulars, queuing up for their similarly free shoes? We've heard all about this exciting new synergy concept happening cross-media (hi, **Tina!**), but we can't possibly believe *Key* magazine is reviewing the fall line. ▼

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Academy of Art student Joseph M. Labisi's concept for a Birkenstock ad

Patricia Barber's 'Modern Cool' Heart and soul

by Michael McDonagh

There are many ways of encountering music, and one of the principal ways is on the radio, which is how I first heard Patricia Barber. The song, a slowly building blues called "Too Rich for My Blood," knocked me out. Here was a jazz voice that sounded cool and controlled, and one that felt emotional, too. When I saw her and her group live at Heart and Soul on Polk Street (now the Red Devil Lounge), the effect was just as strong. And when her lover of ten years, Valerie Booth, asked about a girl bar they could go to after the show, I thought she probably meant The Café, and gave her directions.

Barber was born and raised in Chicago where she still lives, and she has developed quite a following there at the Gold Star Sardine Bar, and now at Al Capone's former haunt, the Green Mill, where she performs Sundays and Mondays with her band. She has four albums to her credit. Her first, *Split*, was on her own label, Floyd, named after her father, who worked with Glenn Miller's orchestra. Barber's second, *A Distortion of Justice*, came out on An-

tilles, and her subsequent CDs have been on the Chicago independent label Premonition Records. "Too Rich for My Blood" was on *Cafe Blue*, and now she has a new release, *Modern Cool*. Besides her voice, Barber is a pianist with a sure touch, a composer who is direct and honest, and a highly sophisticated lyric writer who knows exactly who she is, and is not afraid to share that with the listener. This doesn't mean she's a confessional artist, but rather a good poet who projects the essence of an experience, with just enough particulars to draw one in.

A good example is "Winter" on *Modern Cool*, which deftly sketches an emotional and physical landscape with lines like, "But there's reason to believe that spring/won't arrive/there's reason to fear that when you left/ I died... if I start to scream, the snow buries/ the sound/ I slip on the ice that covers/ the ground..." This probably sounds pretty down, but not the way Barber sings it, because there's usually an implied tenderness in her voice to strike the right balance (a quality she shares with jazz vocalist Shirley Horn).

Showstopping results

Barber also knows she's got to

keep her audience's attention, and as a seasoned performer — her bassist Michael Arnpol has been with her 17 years — she's found what works. Her musicians think on their feet: Barber lets them improvise their solos within the form of each song. These can be spectacular, even showstopping, such as her drummer Mark Walker's solo on "Too Rich for My Blood." But Barber has virtually eschewed virtuosity on *Modern Cool*, which results in an album which is more concentrated and even in tone. "I wanted the listener to focus on the body of this work," she says, "and to accept this identity and this work."

Modern Cool is about passion seen and remembered, and it's also a pointed critique of post-modern society, with its open embrace of materialism. "Touch of Trash" describes the rather perverse union of these themes in a character, while "Silent Partner" is a kind of *noir* lament on obsessive love. Barber extends her exploration of the personal and the political by covering, in her ironic way, the Doors' "Light My Fire" and Paul Anka's "She's a Lady." But she really strikes gold in her extended version of Dietz and Schwartz's great 1934 stan-

dard "You and the Night and the Music" by taking it at a slow blues tempo instead of the usual waltz one, and making the words sound sultry, questioning, and ardent. Barber and her band also do an atmospheric "world music" instrumental, "Constantinople," and "Company," which, like most of the numbers here, reveals more with each listen. Barber's a magnetic performer. She will appear with her group, which includes guitarist John McLean, on November 9th at Yoshi's. For more information, call (510) 238-9200. ▼



Patricia Barber

Butler, Weiland, and Becker All by themselves

by Gregg Shapiro

Most people know the names Bernard Butler, Scott Weiland, and Robert Becker in conjunction with the bands in which Butler, Weiland, and Becker were formerly involved. The London Suede, Stone Temple Pilots, and the Gin Blossoms, respectively, were the groups in which Butler, Weiland, and Becker expended a great deal of their creative energies during the first half of this decade. On *People Move On* (Creation/Columbia) by Bernard Butler, *12 Bar Blues* (Atlantic) by Scott Weiland, and *To A Friend Unknown* (China Grade) by Robert Becker, we get to hear how they plan to close out the decade.

Scott Weiland has wisely chosen to update his image by recording a relatively experimental disc of a dozen surprisingly forward-looking songs. I say surprising because this is not the disc I had expected from the former frontman of Stone Temple Pilots, a band that started out in the grunge-clone category. There were a few songs on their last studio album *Tiny Music...* that indicated what was possible, and after hearing what the remaining members of STP have produced since Weiland's departure (under the name Talk Show), it's obvious that Weiland was the risk taker, in more ways than one.

Tracks such as "Desperation #5," "Barbarella" (a compelling song of self-examination), "About Nothing," "Divider," "Son," "Jimmy Was A Stimulator," and "Lady, Your Roof Brings Me Down" run the gamut of musical styles, making this a fascinating solo effort (with guest appear-

ances by Sheryl Crow, Daniel Lanois and Zander Schloss) that never bores the listener. However, STP (and Weiland) fans will be happy to know that tracks such as "Where's The Man," "Mockingbird Girl," and "Opposite Octave Reaction" prove that Weiland has maintained some of his STP roots.

Robert Becker's Gin Blossoms roots are not readily apparent when you listen to his solo disc *To A Friend Unknown*. Becker, who sings and plays keyboards and guitar, goes for a more stripped-down sound (with the assistance of Kenneth Schalk on drums, bass and percussion, Mike Daly on lap steel, electric guitar and organ, and Mike Barile on dobro) on the disc's dozen tracks. Highlights on this pleasant but austere album include "Busride," "American Town," "Hard Bargain," and "Vertigo." Of particular interest to queer listeners is the fact that Becker is openly gay.

Bernard Butler, formerly of the gay-positive London Suede, has also worked with openly gay singer David McAlmont on the wonderful 1995 disc *McAlmont & Butler*. *People Move On* is as sumptuous as anything by London Suede, with a respectable pop edge. Ask any London Suede fan and they will tell you how integral Butler's guitar work was to the band (in much the same way that The Smiths' sound was equally dependent on Morrissey's vocals and Johnny Marr's guitar-playing).

On *People Move On*, Butler's guitar shares the spotlight with his vocals, which are understated and easy to listen to. Songs such as the title track, "Woman I Know," "Autograph," "You Light The Fire," "You've Got What It Takes," and "Stay" allow Butler the chance to

stretch out on his own. As with Weiland's disc, fans of Butler's former band will also find something to like, particularly with "You Just Know" and "Not Alone." ▼

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon



The Man to burn.

Flame on!

Each year, the phenomenon known as Burning Man, a city of art, music, and ritual that sprouts for a week each fall in Nevada's Black Rock Desert, grows bigger and bigger, and many would say better.

Hundreds of Bay Area residents—many queer artists and performers among them—have been preparing for this year's BM by organizing performances, constructing art installations, untangling bureaucratic snares, and creating the infrastructure necessary to carry the whole thing off.

To showcase their work, BM organizers and the San Francisco Art Commission Gallery are mounting "The Art of Burning Man: An Incendiary Exhibition." Concepts by BM creator Larry Harvey and a host of other artists will be displayed through August 29, with a reception this Friday, July 31, from 6-9pm. The gallery is located at 401 Van Ness Ave. (at McAlister). Admission is free.

As part of the exhibition, The Man will stand for two weeks in the gallery's outdoor "Exploration: City Site" lot at 165 Grove Street.

Following the reception, at 9pm, a procession headed by performers from Pepe Ozán's "Temple of Rudra" (the Burning Man '98 opera) will lead people to The Man. Seventy performers, including the Burning Man Drummers Ensemble, will perform a sacred ritual.

From then till the wee hours, attendees can take part in "Black Rockin' SF," a Black Rock City-style street fair in Lech Walesa Alley. They'll mingle with theme camp organizers and performers in a night fair reminiscent of BM, but made for San Francisco. A \$3 admission charge will be asked.

On Thursday, August 6, BM founder and Black Rock City principal designer Harvey will host a video, lecture and slide presentation, "Burning Art, Building Community," at San Francisco Main Library's Koret Auditorium, 5:30-8pm. He'll be joined by guest Mark Van Proyen, contributing editor for Artweek Magazine.

Also look for a weekend of BM films and videos at the Roxie Theatre, August 21-23.

This year's BM, with a celestial theme of "The Great Above," will be held August 31 to September 7. It is a "No Spectators" event where everyone is expected to participate. To purchase tickets, call 415-TO-FLAME. For more information call the BM hotline at 650-985-7471, or go to <http://www.burningman.com>.

Fri

SF Games

Friendly card and board games open to all players. Play such games as Hearts, Scrabble®, Dominoes, Spades, Tahimi, and others. Bring your favorite games. Free. Every Friday, 7pm to 10pm. Cafe Commons, 3161 Missions St. at Precita. 679-3678.

The Lamplighters

Monroe Kanouse conducts Gilbert & Sullivan's swash-buckling classic operetta, *The Pirates of Penzance*. \$20-\$30. Thru 8/2. 8pm (2pm on Sundays). Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, 700 Howard St. (at 3rd). 978-2787.

En Drag

Hostess Sexilya Luvseat runs her gaggle of female impersonators ragged in the course of three shows. First show at 9pm. \$10 (covers all three shows). Kimo's Showroom, 1351 Polk St. (at Pine). 885-4535.

Filipino American dance

Choreographer Enrico Labayan's "Pahiyas" (Bejeweled) is featured in this Fifth Annual Filipino American Arts Exposition salute to the Philippine Centennial Celebration. Among the dances is "Cloth," a male pas de deux inspired by a passage in the "Song of Songs," a book of the Hebrew Bible known for its sensual and evocative imagery. \$20 (\$15 students/seniors). 8pm. Thru 8/2 (Gala performance on 8/1; \$35 & \$50). Cowell Theater, Fort Mason, Marina and Buchanan Streets. 436-9711.

Parking Lot Shakespeare

Berkeley's Shotgun Players present a Mad Max version of *Richard III*, performed in local parking lots. Set in a world gone bad, with a filthy cast of 10 brandishing crude weapons. \$15 benefit (tonight only; all subsequent performances free). 7pm. Fridays & Saturdays at King Middle School, Rose St. at Grant, west of MLK Blvd; thru 9/5. Sundays thru 9/6 at Hink's Garage, downtown Berkeley btwn. Shattuck and Milvia.

The Ideological Rock Apparatus

An 11-piece orchestra provides music for "On the Farm," a bizarre puppet story chronicling the not-so-heroic journey of a child named Timmy living in a time when the Earth has become one enormous information processor. Brainchild of twenty-somethings Brian Perkins and Colin McGrath. Thru 8/2. Bindlestiff Studio, 185 Sixth St. (at Howard). 974-1167.

Sat

Jody Watley

Atlantic Records artist Watley takes to the stage for live renditions of her dance hits "Off the Hook," "If I'm Not in Love," and others. Doors open 9pm. DJ Blackstone warms up the crowd. Watley performs at 11:30pm. DJ

David Harness spins till dawn. Advance tix (\$15) from BASS: 510-762-2277. Club Universe, 177 Townsend.

Temple Ecstatic

For those of you who enjoyed Carni Mundi, The Mystic Midway and Climate Theatre bring you a one-night-only event: An Immersive Theatrotic Dance Event. \$20. 9pm. Dress Code: Fabulous Gods & Goddesses. 289 9th St. Not queer specific.

Eleven-Eleven Lounge

Paintings and drawings by John LeFlore. Free. Thru 9/1. 1330 Polk St. 885-2652.

The Sugar Shack

Groove to the beats of special guest DJ Thomas. One of the brightest stars of the early SF rave scene and a pivotal member of SF's renowned Wicked Crew, New York City's DJ Thomas is one of the nation's best house DJs. Exclusive SF performance. Presented by Andy Wasserman and The Soll Brothers. \$10. 9:30pm to 4:30am. Club VSF, 11th & Folsom. Info-line: 668-2476.

Fauxgirls

This "all-different" revue of female impersonators is co-hosted by Sexilya Luvseat and Miss Chariot. \$8 cover. 2 shows ("each different"). Open mike drag show follows (bring tape or CD and be a star). Doors open 9:30pm. Kimo's Upstairs Showroom, 1351 Polk St. 885-4535.

Z Space

Studio Theatre

"Ben Franklin, Unplugged"

extends its run thru 8/16. The new solo play by Josh Kornbluth has the playwright/performer questing for "the truth" about the founding father and himself. \$15. 8pm. 1360 Mission St., 3rd Floor. 543-9505.

Sun

Karaoke Contest

The Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center's Rubber Club, an AIDS/HIV education program, presents "Star Search Karaoke '98." Hosted by Tita Aida and The Rice Girls, tonight launches a series of preliminary and semi-final contests leading up to the grand finals in late September. Free. 8pm. 21 or over. 'N Touch Club, 1548 Polk St. 441-8413

A Different Light

Richard Tyler Jordan reads from and discusses *But Darling, I'm Your Auntie Mame*. The book examines the staying power of one of Broadway and motion picture's most memorable characters, Auntie Mame. Free. 7:30pm. Followed (at 8:30pm) by Smart Bomb-D, an open mic(helle) for women. Bring explosive work to read. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Stern Grove Festival

Planet Dance, a colorful journey of dance around the globe with the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival. Free. 2pm. First come, first seated. Bring

ground cloth and picnic lunch. Sigmund Stern Grove, 19th Ave. at Sloat Blvd.

Chanticleer

The Bay Area's internationally acclaimed vocal ensemble presents Benjamin Britten's "Curlew River," a 75-minute opera based on a medieval Japanese Noh play portraying a grief-stricken mother seeking her missing child. Reserved seats \$25-\$29. General admission \$19. 8pm (7pm Sundays). Thru 8/16. Tickets through City Box Office (392-4400) or BASS. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St.

Asian Art Museum

The Identity Quest Film Series presents Kidlat Tahimik's "Turumba," taking place in a Philippine festival in which villagers create 200 brightly painted papier-mâché figures. A German entrepreneur buys all the figures and orders hundreds more, dramatically changing the village's economic life. Free with museum admission. 2pm. Trustees' Auditorium, Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8800.

Mon

A Different Light

Benjamin Shepard reads from and discusses *White Nights* and *Ascending Shadows: An Oral History of SF AIDS Epidemic*, a montage of life-story interviews with 30 people with AIDS. Free. 7:30pm.

Sha Sha Higby dances *The Wooden Sun* in the Young Performers Theater. See Thursday.



Albert Hollander

489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Mad Magda's

Reception for photographer Fennel Skellyman, whose images will be on exhibit through August, and illustrator James Jeske, whose work will be displayed through 8/15. Free. 7-9pm. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes St. 864-7654.

Tues

iY. Q.U.E.!

Young, Queer & Under Emergency presents "The Zoo," a place for all under-25 gay, bisexual, lesbian, and transgender Latinos/as to meet, make friends, share thoughts, and kick back. Activities include refreshments, movie nights, games, crafts, and outings. Free. Every Tuesday at 6:30pm. Proyecto Contra SIDA Por Vida (PCPV), 2973 16th St. (at Mission). 864-7278.

Josie's Cabaret

Gay Mexican singer/songwriter Jesús Guillén performs Spanish-language songs every Tuesday in August, including selections from his new album, "Jesús." With guest musicians. 8pm. 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

A Different Light

David Savran reads from and discusses *Taking It Like A Man*. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891

"Barrymore"

Christopher Plummer reprises his Tony-Award winning role as the legendary stage and screen actor John Barrymore. \$25-\$55. 8pm. Thru 9/6. Herbst Theatre. Tickets at BASS: 776-1999.

ArtHaus

"The Heat," a summer exhibition featuring a simmering collection of paintings, sculpture, photography and works by Brian Blood, Adam Kurtzman, Vincent Hron and others. Free. 10am-6pm; thru 9/5. ArtHaus, 1053 Bush St. 922-8219.

Gallery Piazza

Celebrating its 8th anniversary with a special exhibition of recent original graphic works by Koichi Taniakawa and Chizuru Miyasako. Free. 10am-7pm; thru 8/9. Gallery Piazza, 819 Bridgeway, 3rd Fl. Sausalito. 431-6711.

Michael Storm plays a post-apocalyptic Richard III in a Berkeley parking lot. See Friday.



Self portrait by Fennel Skellyman
at Mad Magda's. See Monday.



Fennel Skellyman

Theatre of Yugen

Byron Yee's autobiographical "Paper Son" begins as a humorous look at Oriental stereotypes in Hollywood, but turns to investigating Yee's father's immigration records, unearthing a motherload of surprising information. \$10.50-\$12.50 general. \$8.50 students/seniors. Also on 8/11. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa St. at Project Artaud. 621-7978.

Wed

Footloose @ Venue 9
The Creative Music Series

sponsored by Footloose has expanded to include visual and multimedia works. Now experience "Other Features: Music, Film, and Video" every Wednesday at Venue 9. Tonight: percussion duet Moe! Stefano and Gino Robair, and from London, The Shock Exchange with Caroline Kraabel (saxes, voice) and John Edwards (contrabass). \$6-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Folsom and Howard). Info/Reservations: 289-2000.

SF Gay Rap

The gay, bi, lesbian, transgender weekly gathering for discussions, poetry readings, card and board games, improv theatre, or whatever.

Tonight's topic: "Prison Daddies: what makes dangerous people so appealing as sex partners?" Free. 7pm to 10pm. Harvey Milk Academy Auditorium, 4235 19th St. at Collingwood. 522-8700.

Mad Magda's

Matthew Worszlo's performs as Kielbasia, Queen of Poland. In this third installation in a series, Kielbasia travels the land, working to keep the old recipes alive. An evening of comedy and song, with accordion. Also: viewing of Kielbasia's vacation slides. \$5. 8pm. Each Wednesday in August. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes St. 864-7654.

Marga Gomez

The laughs are non-stop in "Gag Reflex," an evening of stand-up comedy, character assassination, venting, spewing, and stories about the rich and stupid. \$10/\$12. 8pm Thru 8/9. Josie's Cabaret, 3383 16th St. (at Market).

Stern Grove Festival

Lecture and performance by the Turtle Island String Quartet, featuring original compositions in the group's "American Vernacular" style. Free. 5:30pm. San Francisco Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 252-6252.

Thur

Young

Performers Theater

Exotic costumes and puppets grab attention in artist Sha Sha Higby's "The Wooden Sun," a "dance in sculptural costume." \$12.50 (\$15.50 Fri. & Sat.). Thru 8/9. 8pm (plus 9:30 show Fri. & Sat.). Fort Mason Center. 868-2409.

Red Vic Movie House

"The Decline of Western Civilization III," directed by Penelope Spheeris. 1998. "An unflinching look into the lives of the hardcore fans of present day punk rock in Los Angeles." 7:15pm & 9:15pm nightly thru 8/12 (plus 2pm & 4pm Sat. & Sun). 1727 Haight St.

DragStrip

Fudgie Frotlage hosts the club where gender bends over backwards, with DJ Sir Stephanie Phillips. \$3-\$5. Every Thurs. 9:30pm. 375 11th St. 331-9595. Ext. 300.

See Jane Run

Rock band plays 10pm at Slims, 333 11th St.

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Out & About
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- CHICKEN CORDON BLEU stuffed with honey-baked ham & fontina cheese 8.95
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Enrico Labayan dances on
top of Todd Courage in
Cloth as part of the
Filipino American Arts
Exposition. See Friday.



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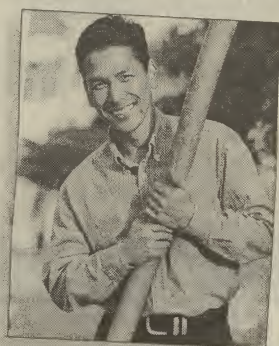
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Two titles and a fair day

by Mister Marcus

Boy, it was busy around these parts last weekend. Hundreds of people came to the Dore Alley Fair on Sunday, but for many leatherfolk the journey there began at the Eagle on Friday night, July 24. They packed in for the 16th Annual SF Leather Daddy Contest.

T.J. Istvan and Loren Berthelsson manned the mikes for the event, which featured only two contestants this year: Kelly Showers and Tony Amato. The lively competition started on time and ended shortly after midnight. Showers and Amato went through the obligatory prejudging earlier in the day, saving the best for onstage judging before an enthusiastic audience.

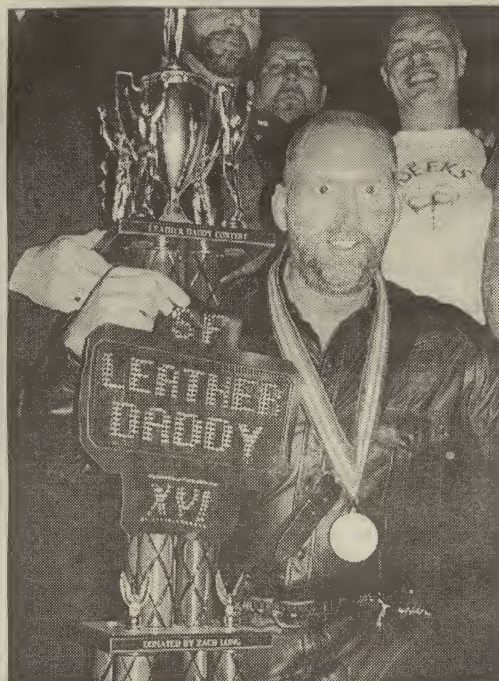
Between the judging and raffle drawings, live entertainment was provided by singers Sheba and Donna Sachet, and both were well-received.

The moment of truth arrived when tallymaster Tony Clark brought the envelope to the stage. The winner of the title is Kelly Showers, a bike-club member and activist with an enviable track record in community involvement.

In his stepping-down speech, Patrick Batt eloquently thanked all the people who made his year with the title an outstanding one. Mid-way through his year, he was elected president of the Merchants of Upper Market & Castro (MUMC), adding to the already challenging responsibilities of being the city's leather daddy.

It was a sterling evening.

The next afternoon (Saturday, July 25) an enthusiastic crowd assembled at the Sound Factory, a great venue with a generous owner, Mike Whelan. He provided the space free for the Mr. Northern California Drummer and Drummer Boy



Kelly Showers beams with pride after being named the 16th SF Leather Daddy last Friday night, July 24, at the Eagle.

contests. A battalion of volunteers helped Philip Turner and Graylin Thornton stage a well-run event.

A big draw, of course, was hunky emcee Tony Mills, IML '98. But equally alluring were the four men vying for the Mr. Drummer title, Greg "Sarge" Park of Alameda County, Steve Bourasa of Sacramento, Ray Tilton of San Francisco, and Philip Lamantia of San Jose.

The boy contestants, too, garnered quite a bit of attention. They were Robert Goulding of San Francisco, Nicolas Murphy

of Sacramento, and Kent Marohl of Alameda County.

All the speeches, fantasies, and physiques drew big applause. When they were over, tallymasters George Carreras and Tim Wong wasted no time in getting the results to the stage. But before that, Linda Imperial wowed the crowd with a few numbers, including her new hit, a memorable and pleasing interpretation of the Connie Francis song "Where The Boys Are." Through it all, Mr. Mills was right on with his adlibbing and stretching.

Finally, the moment of truth arrived. The new Northern Cali-

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EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend July 31 — August 2

Hayward or Denver? Leatherfests in both cities this weekend. In Hayward it starts Friday night with a roast of Steve Crouse and E-Ticket, 2000, at the Turf Club. Saturday afternoon a flea market with demos, food, and piercings beginning at 1100 with a \$10 fee. Saturday night, Mr./Ms. Alameda County Leather contest at BJM Hall (1160 Ocean View Dr @ Ash) at 1900. Audrey Joseph and Lenny Broberg will emcee. Sunday, a leatherwalk (1030) begins at the Rainbow Room and finishes at the Turf Club. Should be fun!

In Denver, it's Thunder Mountain, that city's first major leatherfest weekend. All the big guns of leatherdom will be there either conducting workshops and demos or judging the Mr./Ms. Rocky Mtn. Leather contests. Host hotel is the Ramada Inn Central. Weekend package \$90 and you can order same by calling (303) 698-1207 or email ArmbandRT@aol.com. I'll be there judging the contests, so watch for photos next week!

August 1 — 8

Lots of leather activity in Amsterdam all week as the leather community stages some interesting parties and get-togethers during Gay Games. Try the Argos first!

Sunday, August 2

Constantines beer/soda bust at the Lone Star from 1600-2000, for only \$6. I don't care what the CABC says: it's a beer bust! Harrumph!

Thursday, August 6

Free and anonymous HIV testing upstairs at 933

Harrison, beginning at 2000. For more info, call 863-HEAD.

Saturday, August 8

25th Annual Closet Ball, one of the city's campiest events, at the Gift Center Pavillion. Tickets going fast! Who would have thought an event could endure this long?

In Fort Lauderdale, Ed Ivey stages the Mr. Florida Drummer and Drummer Boy contest for the last time. Beginning next year, current Intl. Mr. Drummer Jeffrey Adler will take it over. Always fun in Ft. Lauderdale — Hi Mike and Manoli!

Satyr's MC of Los Angeles host beer/soda bust with food and sign-up party for the 37th Annual Badger Flat weekend run at the Eagle, from 1500-1900.

Sunday, August 9

Golden Gate Guards MC host beer/soda bust at the Eagle this afternoon, 1500-1800; \$8. Always fun with the Guards!

The 15 Association beer/soda bust at Daddy's, 1500-1800, with a \$7 tariff and a flogging & spanking theme. Benefits a Stop AIDS Project brochure on safer SM.

In Chicago? A new exhibit, "Kink: A Women's Perspective," opens today, at 1600, at the Leather Archives & Museum, with a reception for several of the artists. This is a landmark event. For more information, call (773) 275-1570.

Wednesday, August 12

Wet Wednesday at 933 Harrison. Doors open 2000-2300, for all you yellow hankie dudes. Call 863-HEAD for more info.

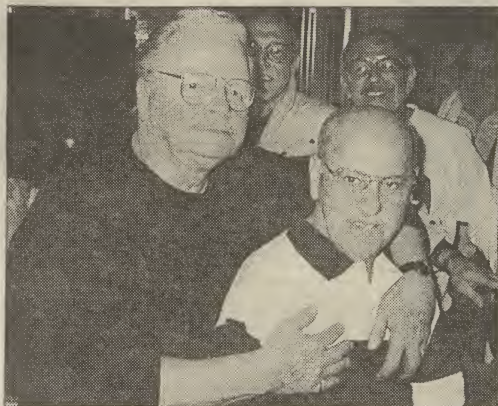
Hot fun in the summertime

by Sweet Lips

Summertime, and the living is sleazy — at least on ye olde Polkstrasse! It was great to see the ever-handsome Stern at the plank at the new, improved Giraffe Video (and Chandelier) Lounge the other night — and, belly up to the bar, there was former *Sentinel* publisher/Closet Ball King Bob Golovich, recently featured in Michael R. Gorman's fabulous book on the life of eternal Empress José Sarria, *The Empress Was a Man*. Don't forget the Giraffe's Summer Specials every Tuesday night, 8 p.m. till Midnight: \$1 draft beer; \$2 domestic beer; \$3 well drinks. Easy as 1-2-3.

The Rendezvous has L. James on the plank for "Last Friday" on July 31, 5 till 8 p.m.: \$1 off all drinks, with Pennsylvania Dutch Treats. The first 49ers pre-season game starts on Sunday, August 2, with a Tailgate Party from 2-7 p.m. Ronnie Lynn will be on the plank, and David Kapp is the emcee. The Sunrise Foundation Benefit Dinner will take place on Monday, August 3 from 6-9 p.m. The price of dinner (\$5) benefits Home Care Companions, a very good cause. The second 49ers pre-season game is Saturday, August 8 at 7 p.m.; the Tailgate Party's from 6-11 p.m.

Batter up! Join the Rendezvous for a chartered bus trip to Until There's a Cure Day (SF Giants vs. Atlanta Braves) at 3-Com Park on Sunday, August 9. Tickets are



Lips gloms onto Bob Golovich, and isn't that special.

\$21.50/person until 8/2; \$25 thereafter. The bus departs the Rendezvous promptly at 11 a.m. Sign up now, because the game will sell out fast.

Don't miss Empress Motz's Going Away Party (Motz, take me with you!) on Friday, August 7, 6-9 p.m. at the 1100 Club (formerly the Polk Gulch Saloon). Terry Sidie, Reba MacN-What, Douglas Stromberg,

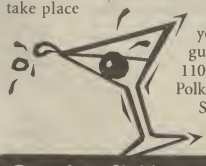
Steven Rascher and Susie Cortright host a farewell party and roast for Absolute Empress 27 Velveeta Mozarella the GRATE, catered by Dennis (Portabella 'n' Pigs' Feet) Tyler. For more info and what gives, call Susie at 771-2022.

At 10 p.m. on the last two Saturdays of the month, the fun is

Live at Marlena's, with the outrageous drag race called "Lip-Sting!" starring Riki Peters, Grizzilla Presley, Daphney Deluxe and Karen Kill.

Seems the former "Gate Bar" is now an empty shell, and the ladies who were going to re-open it have backed out of the deal. This is really too bad: it's a great space in a great location. Any new deals out there? Speaking of change, now that Tyler has resigned, Kimo is looking for a new manager.

It sure is good to see Mikey back at Reflections on Polk. Do drop in and have a drink with him Wed. & Thurs. nights, and Fri., Sat., and Sun. afternoons. Toss a dry one back and remember me to the bar, darlings. On Sunday the 9th, I'll be back on the plank from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (them hours for serious morning drinking!) at the Rendezvous. Come join me for a drink and a disk. ▼



Cocktail Hour

Mister Marcus

◀ page 44

fornia Drummer Boy was Nicholas Murphy of Sacramento. The 1st runner-up for Mr. Drummer was Greg "Sarge" Park, and Mr. Northern California Drummer '98 is San Francisco's Ray Tilton. Both will compete for the Big One in September. A victory party ensued at Daddy's, and the partying whooped on late into the night.

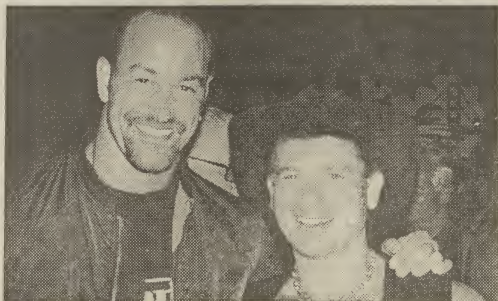
Sunday, July 26, dawned cool and gray, but at exactly 11:15 the sun burst out as thousands of fun-seeking leather men and women converged on the 15th Annual Dore Alley Fair.

There they enjoyed lots of leather, latex, skin, music, beer, cocktails, food. Several commented that "this is how it was in the old days." At 15 years old, the Up Your Alley/Dore Alley Fair continues to get better and better. While no one has an exact count, it's safe to say the crowd measured slightly larger than at last year's party where about 6,600 people showed up. This year almost 7,000 people had a blast! The SMMILE board members and all the volunteers should be proud of their efforts.

By the way, the South of Market 1999 Bare Chest Calendar made its debut this weekend, too — the earliest publication date ever. With lots of gorgeous beefcake pictured, needless to say, it's a stunning edition. ▼



1998 Northern California Drummer Boy Nicholas Murphy (L) of Sacramento, and Mr. Northern California Drummer '98 Ray Tilton last Saturday afternoon, July 25.



IML Tony Mills (L) here with 1st runner-up Andrew Lennox, both in town for the weekend festivities.

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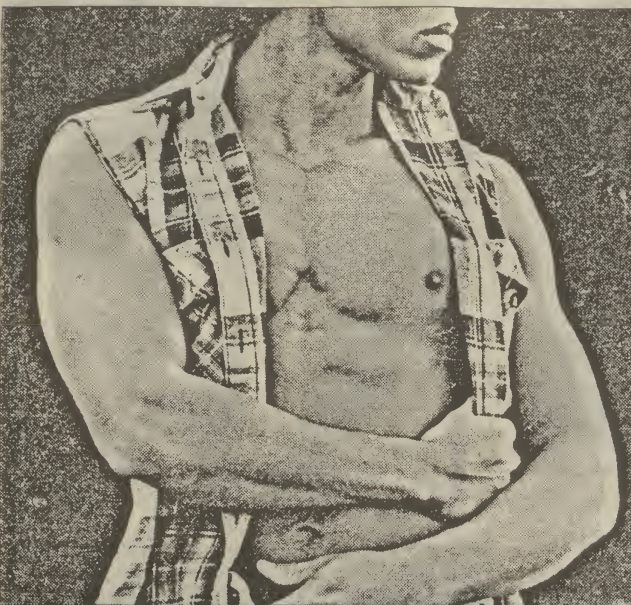


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PARTING GLANCES

Jeff w/Cross Powerhouse 6/19
You were with our Australian friend. I had to leave. I was having a great time. I'd love to finish our conversation. Let's get together. Please call! ☎ 3000

Muni Underground Sat 6/20 2pm
Me: WM with white shirt and jeans, got on at Church. You: WM tall with cap, holding Rent Tech book, bracelet. Enjoyed exchanging glances until you got off @ Powell. ☎ 3001

James @ Powerhouse Sat 6-20
We talked at length until my ride left. I regretted not getting your phone number. Want to meet again. Call Neil. ☎ 3002

Mr. Tickle
Brave combo 6/18. You wore a Mr. Tickle T-shirt & had a great smile. Me: near the door, long hair in a braid, glasses, moustache. Let's meet. ☎ 3003

Erica on Church Sun 6-21 8pm
U-window table with friend. Me- Blue & white shirt with friend would be great to meet.... ☎ 3004

Fred-- All American Boy
Hey, where did you go? It was hard enough when you left before... I miss having coffee with you. Please call. ☎ 3005

Muscle systems Lockerroom 6/18
We recognized each other from first flirtation a year ago. You're a handsome goateed and hairy actor from the Midwest (Ohio)? Let's talk. ☎ 3006

Mike @ B. Buddies 6/15/98
You're Hot in blue coveralls in patio stall. I told you I was Robert of Palo Alto. I want to reconnect with you. You say you're Filipino? ☎ 3100

Arun, Sun Morning, Universe
Can't seem to forget you're sparkle, nor your sensuality. Let's have a date soon. Please call "Kiss" Mark. ☎ 3101

Horny Goblin
Saw your sign in the window. Hairy ogre would like to feed you.... ☎ 3102

Daniel Gay Pride Day
We talked at End-Up. You just got back from Spain. We agreed to meet at Mass (1015) We misconnected. Would like to hang out-James. ☎ 3103

Manifest So Co
Harmony next day. You S&P goatee. Me S&P stache. We said Hello. Want to talk? ☎ 3104

Gay Day Parade
You: Handsome WM, tall, blonde crewcut, built, leaning on barricades. Me: In cop car in parade. You waved expressed interest. I called back "promises, promises" wish I'd gotten out to talk. ☎ 3200

Cute Longhaired guy Cala 7/2
You were going camping for the long weekend. I was the longhaired guy in front of you. I'm not as bold as my friend, but I'd enjoy meeting again. ☎ 3201

Phil, dancing country western
With you was great! I wish we could do it again soon, but how to reach you? I hope your dance card isn't filled! Anthony. ☎ 3202

Steve of Noe Valley VIA TN VIA
UK parents. Gay Day at Badlands. We were attracted but unable to verbalize effectively. Now that we are sober, let's talk! ☎ 3203

Mike, Safeways Market St.
Hey Mike! You Carhart overalls dark hair and moustache. Me: Carhart trousers, moustache. We met back in mid May would still love to hear from you. B. ☎ 3204

Jason at Pride
Me: beard, dark green plaid shirt. Told you that the SFPD shirt looked good on you. Got nervous and left when your friend returned. Would love to see you again without either of them. ☎ 3205

Mission/24th BART
Mark- Met on BART day of Pride Parade. Did not get your number. Very interested in meeting again. Paul. ☎ 3300

Michael 7/6 Appointment missed.
Crossed signals, thought you were someone else. You were the one. Try again? David. ☎ 3301

John from Pleasanton
We met early morning, July 4th, in Hayward lot. You were tired, I was cold. I would give anything to see your smile again. Please call me Sam. ☎ 3302

Chris of Glenn Park
U came to my basement mass rm for BJ early this year, return visit? Please call Jack. ☎ 3303

Rory
It's a rare chance when special people meet. It was great being with you. I'll always remember. When will I see you again? Troy. ☎ 3328

Tous/74approx10am little H'wood
Laundry. You: Dark skin, hair, glasses wearing blue Adidas pants & white T. shirt. Me: Blonde caucasian, glasses wearing T-shirts and jeans. Traded looks, waved goodbye. Should have said more. ☎ 3407

Kevin from Hong Kong
Met on N Judah 6/30. You: beautiful smile and very sweet. Me: tall, blond, and very interested. Want to have lunch? ☎ 3400

Sunday July 19 @ Baker beach
You were in a lawn chair. I invited you to throw the football. Your name is Will. Please call me. ☎ 3401

Don 7/02 @ the Powerhouse
We couldn't get a cab and I forgot to give you my number. Give me a call. Kevin. ☎ 3402

24 Divisadero Wed. Pm July 15
Sat across from you. Both of us are bearded. I was wearing olive green suit. Wish I had time to give you my phone number. ☎ 3403

Mike- Architect, Sun 7/12 10am
Church St. Muni. You were going to swim. Me to church. You were reading a novel. I want to know how the plot thickens. Loved your smile. Call me - Bobby. ☎ 3404

Royal exchange Tue7/14 12:30pm
You: brown and white shirt, with friend, waiting for booth. Me: brown leather jacket, S/P hair, leaving with friend. We exchanged smiles--more than once. You're so handsome! Let's connect! ☎ 3405

7/16 early am BART Civic ctr.
5:30 am you in train looking out at me. We've played twice @ Mack. Me: Kangal hat, short Latin, you: tall blonde goatee, you intrigue me.... ☎ 3406

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GWM 6', 165lbs. Would like to meet, touch, kiss and make love to you on a regular, long time relationship. Don't be lonely anymore. I'm here. ☎ 3007

Santa Rosa Oldie
Wants 60 and over smrk drink video's toys any shape no hairy beard, pierced shaved body a + my place any time. I'm WM 65 HIV- cum stay for breakfast. ☎ 3008

Cute, Lonely, and new to city
30yo GWM 5'8", 160lb, br/br intellectual, artistic, and spiritual. Seeking attractive, creative, medium to trim build, likes to work out, for friendship and more. Tall a +. ☎ 3010

Looking for a man to love
I'm Italian, 55, 5'11", 175#, versatile. You are that special man, 40-50, in-shape, seriously interested in dating, getting to know each other and a possible relationship. I'm ready and waiting for your call. ☎ 3011

Single Chicano 27
Seeking Latin or Whites under 40 for friendship possible LTR. I'm Latino 5'7", 165, muscular, grad student. N/S & no club addicts. ☎ 3012

Big Potato
Chubby GWM seeks Asian for fun, romance, maybe marriage. We are creative, educated, enjoy travel, cuisine, arts. UR slim, under 35, tobacco-free, HIV- Gym bodies OK. Brains and spirit are better. ☎ 3013

ISO Regular guys
LM 42, 6', 160lbs. ISO men 35+ interested in possible LTR. Prefer affectionate blue collar, husky, loner types. I'm not into gay lifestyle, working out gets uppies, drugs. Tobacco OK. ☎ 3014

Want great sex super cocksucker
Mine: 7x6- yours as big or bigger- S. Bay older SWM- HIV- for overnight short trips XXVIDEOS - Give great head and 69s. Call leave name number. ☎ 3015

Look into my eyes
GWM 28yrs HIV+ 165lbs, 5'7 1/2". Lk into my eyes show me your soul. Let me kiss you softly. Let me hold U on stormy nights. Liking for LTR UB 25-38 HU/Wt proportionate. ☎ 3016

If you want you can have
Caring, thoughtful, BM prof. 40s, looking for ITR with experienced WM bottom who's physically and emotionally available as I am and desires a monogamous unit. Pls Be 45-55, clean shaven and under 6', med heavy set ok. ☎ 3017

Rancher study senior gent
6'2", 215# husky, burly 53 GWM beard, crew cut likes agriculture, dogs, outdoors. Capan 1/2 intelligent conversation seeks oral younger healthy men who know older gents are hot friends/partners. ☎ 3018

Seeking E. HIV+ top
HIV+ GWM 36, 185, 6ft, Blu/br bottom seeks local Antioch Concord area mustached smoker top for LTR. Looking for dark haired brown eyed hotty!! ☎ 3019

Lonesome??
Me too!! Let's waste no more time. Call to see if we can make a match. I am GWM, 5'11", 165#, HIV- N/D. ☎ 3020

Bear Cub Seeks Daddy
27yo Attractive, sensitive, shy bear. Seeks a strong, tactile mento top for LTR. ☎ 3105

Awesome round bubble-buttl!
I want it. Need it. Ride it. Want a 40-80 yr old. White, HIV-, masculine anal bottom with 33"-42" waist. I am 5'9", 170 and black. ☎ 3106

At-A-Glance
Goodlooking SGWM, 6', 170lbs. Kind, passionate, playful, sincere. Into: music, arts, nature, cooking, gardening etc. Seeks: SGWM, 24-42yo full of personality, fun, goodlooking, casual, charming. Dating: goal LTR. ☎ 3107

Seek meaningful relationship
Me: Sensual, sexy trim spiritual, sweet GW Mediterranean 5'2". You: Handsome 30s GWM, spiritual romantic, sincere, gentle, masculine type HIV-. Drug, alcohol free for dating and possible LTR. ☎ 3108

Sonoma Co. Country guy
6', 180#, sports loving 46yo ISO hirsute, sexually dominant gent to share quiet evenings, good wine, laughter, 49er game, and passionate man-to-man sex. LTR? ☎ 3109

Spoil me!
Adventurous, attractive 23yo wants to experience the finer things in life. Seeking a youthful, stable, financially secure gentleman to show me around, teach, and care for me. ☎ 3110

Vert attractive
26yo WM 5'11" seeks older generous top for LTR. Sophisticated and kinky a+. ☎ 3111

GWM 38 In E. Bay seeks?
Male 18-35, for my first MtoM relationship. I'm 5'10", 180, U should be 18-35 clean shaven nice attitude, no drugs prefer E. Bay. ☎ 3112

1+1=1
Smart, easygoing, dependable, romantic, caring AM, 32, 5'6", 165#, HIV- seeks similar A/W men, 29-35, in E. Bay for dating and possible LTR. ☎ 3113

Masseur/Bodybuilder wanted
Prof. WM, semi-retired, very hirsute, seeks a healthy male for wkly date. Excellent remuneration. Pref. East Bay. ☎ 3114

Positive romance
GWM, 45, 5'11", 185lbs., dark hair(mostly gone and cropped short), dark eyes, moustache, hairy, great shape, masculine, romantic, intelligent, funny, professional, mostly top, loves kissing, LTR oriented. HIV+ healthy. ☎ 3115

Dark complexioned?
Intelligent big eyed cute 37 seeks Mediterranean like man (20s-40s) for passionate encounters, LTR? Appealing 6', 165lb., endowed, HIV-. Nice smile. ☎ 3220

Attractive Asian
30yo, professional, sexy, medium built but proportioned very smooth without body hair and good looking seeking caucasian 25-40 who is sincere, smart for possible LTR. Tall and muscular and goodlooking guys A +. ☎ 3116

Cute African American
27, 5'6" 165lb seeks HIV- guys 23-35. Be goodlooking who enjoy beach walks, dinners, dancing, etc. I seek a top for friendship & a possible LTR. ☎ 3117

My guys all wanna repeat!
So I guess my kind of no-nonsense, relationship free, anonymous cock-sucking-valuing big load over big dicks-- works. Let your own nice stiff dick give it a whirl! ☎ 3118

Attn: All American boys
You: GWM, 18-28, attractive lean, healthy, frisky! Me: GWM, 25, good looking, in-shape, athletic, frisky! Us: hanging out, movies, good times, Lattes, sound fun? ☎ 3206

Hiv+ Latin
31yo, 6', 165#, dark hair, eyes, goatee. ISO a LTR that starts w/conversation not sex, UB Latin or white w/similar interests, age, h/wt. Call let's talk over coffee. ☎ 3207

Free man wanted.....
All races be own age imaginative, happy. Me: same (50, w, HIV-) physical. ☎ 3208

ISO Eastern European male
Wanted: E. E. male 20-40yrs, versatile, horny, with a good attitude who likes to laugh for dating and orgasms. Me: handsome Californian 40s, 5'9", 156lb, tight body, go do it kind of guy. ☎ 3209

Look no further
GLM 31, 5'10" 175lbs. In very good shape & handsome. ISO GWM top 25-35yrs old, you shld be in good shape, goodlooking and very masc. pref. E. Bay for friendship or possible LTR. ☎ 3210

Take a "Walk in the clouds!"
Marin-Sonoma country guy, SGWM, seeks city connections. Dating: goal LTR. Very goodlooking genuine, fun, communicative. You: SGWM under 40-55 who looks as good in a suit as jeans, boots and a harness. Date first, LTR later. ☎ 3211

Mi Amor...
Searching for that special one.. With big heart and penetrating eyes of sincerity. Me: 29yo 6' lovable Latino looking to share sunny Padres games and romantic dinners for two. ☎ 3212

Corporate by day Lthr by night..
Preppy GWM, 40, 6', smart financially/emotionally secure. ISO same, 40-55 who looks as good in a suit as jeans, boots and a harness. Date first, LTR later. ☎ 3213

E. Bay Master seeks slave
25-50yrs, responsible, HU/Wt proportionate, with obedient tongue and ass. Sincere, companion-oriented only. Fucking, drinking piss eating cum, servicing nipples. Masters dominant, not sadistic, HIV-, 42, 170#, br/bl, moustache, goatee. ☎ 3214

Temporary boyfriend wanted...
Me: 34, 160#, 5'6", br/br, stache, nice bod, artist. You: mature, honest, passionate, sense of humor, likes the finer things in life. Handsome, exotic. ☎ 3215

New to SF
GWM, 6'2", 175#, young 40s, cute, clean cut, smooth top HIV-. ISO similar guy who is lean, romantic and playful. Desire fun times & LTR. Smaller guys A + too! ☎ 3216

Brotha to Brotha
If you need a guy with a warm heart, sharp wit and big dick I'm your man. If you have similar attributes, is healthy, and under 50 years old!! ☎ 3217

GM 24yrs 5'7" 128lbs...
Brown eyes/hair European looking for G or Bi 19 to 40 yrs professional or student HIV- handsome with nice personality. ☎ 3218

Boy needs his Daddy-Master
GWM 30, 5'10", Lean, husky, br/br, HIV+, healthy. Looking for a relationship/ownership with 35-45yo, safe, sane, daddy/master taller and more muscular than the boy is. This boy is part puppy and needs to be trained in a good home! ☎ 3219

Friendship and more
I'm a GWM, 39yrs 5'8" 150lbs. Goodlooking in-shape. Looking for GWM close honest friends, 35-45. Sex ok, but want more. Like outdoors-camping hiking. ☎ 3304

Loved to be fucked
On a regular, steady, relationship by Asian and Black men. Slide your wet dick into my bottom and plow me a long time. You won't be disappointed. ☎ 3305

Wtd Healthy young married male
Prof WM, semi-retired, seeks a healthy married or single male for wkly date. No recip. required, pref East Bay. ☎ 3306

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 32yo dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, like to go to movies dinner, hiking, tennis, travel. Looking for GWM between 25-37yo for friendship of more. Just call. ☎ 3307

Father figure.
Older British gentleman, kindly former head master, accepts naughty persons for hand spanking & more. ☎ 3308

Strong body strong heart
Masculine, creative, good-natured, health Poz, HU/Wt prop, gym-dedicated, GWM, 6', 185#, 45, balding/buzz, N/S, ISO similar for dating and LTR, Tall and or lean A +. ☎ 3408

Make me fatter! Sensual bottom
Up to 50# fatter! GWM, 6'1", 250#, ex-jock look with big sensual gut and ecs. Weight lifting for definition. Exceptionally healthy HIV+. Homeowner, bright, happy, romantic, more!! South Bay/Peninsula. ☎ 3409

Seeking masculine top
WM, attrac, 45, 5'7", 151, good-shape, HIV-, seeks WM, balding, good-shape, masc top. You are a good person, established, and like outdoors. ☎ 3410

Seeking LTR bottom GWM
34yo top GAM friendly, good-looking, muscular, smooth body and romance, seeks healthy GWM 36-45, sweet guy, honest, N/S, N/D, handy. Let's get together. ☎ 3411

Mature GWM seeking friendship
I treasure openness, warmth, romance, intimacy, and enjoy the outdoors. Performing arts, classical music, conversation. 6', 160lbs, bl/blu. ☎ 3412

Maximum mix
Me: Chocolate; 6'+; 45+; 190+; HIV-. You: Vanilla; 6'+; 45+; 190+; HIV-. Seeking a delicious mouth of Sundae we can make for a lifetime! ☎ 3413

ISO GBM/GLM partner 4 buttplay
GWM, 45, 6', 160, affectionate, NS, HIV-, beard/moustache, seeks friendly, emotionally available GBM/GLM, NS, to get off on (atche) anal, intimacy. Possible relationship. Facial hair A +. ☎ 3414

Want fri friendly relation
BIB/WM seeks cute first boyfriend. You're an honest, patient, doper, who loves to laugh. I'm 30yo, 5'10", 30yo swimmer. Loves dancing, live music shows, movies, sports. ☎ 3415

HIV+ Eastbay Top wanted
HIV+ bottom, 36, 6', 185, blue, brown, healthy. seeks top to smuggle with in Concord/Antioch area LTR with local dark hair, brown eyed, smoker. ☎ 3416

Master ISO full-service slave
For BD, SM, FF, boot training, toilet training, boot service. You: Intellectual, classical music under 35, less than 5'10", slim. Me: call and find out. Relationship oriented. ☎ 3417

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Dynamite orgasms
5'10", 190# 8'cut, white Euro. Male young 50 will instruct under 40 ht/wt proportionate. In ecstatic, creative spiritual sex at your place. ☎ 3021

SF Over 50 Gumjob wanted Eves
WM, 46, 5'10", 170lbs, med bld, musta, br/br, 7X5 1/2 cut cockrked meat, needs milked on reg basis by a hungry older pole polisher (no teeth). Serious only! ☎ 3022

Berkeley bear
Versatile Top. No costumes; no props. Me: 35, 5'11", 240#, bl/br, hairy. You: under 30, smooth creative. Latino, long-haired dude's encouraged. ☎ 3023

Got Dick?
Friendly cocksucker, 46, for trim hung black men, 30s-40s, I'm 5'9", slender, br-bl, short beard, stache. My place in SF car helpful. Be horny open to repeats. ☎ 3024

Legs up for pride week!
Middle-aged Black topan (beautiful but buste-) seeks masculine mature bottoms free of SF's young and pretty only attitude Love only sex. Experienced, sincere men only. ☎ 3025

Serious Bicycle Riders only
GBM 32 6' 170# cute masculine seeks athletic built bike riders with big legs and biker butt. Any race for hot safe fun you won't be disappointed. ☎ 3026

Hot pig bottoms wanted by...
54 yo white male 6' 155lbs Drk brn/bm glasses big 9" cock wants to fuck young 18-38yo white or latin smooth bodied pig bottoms. ☎ 3029

Smooth Boyish Asian enjoys
Hot tubs, massage, oral, and J/O with smooth gym toned WM & AM. Blonde A +. ☎ 3125

Piss sensation
My tongue will lick your piss slit and slowly bring your balls and bladder to explosive release. Under 35 same day or night call back. ☎ 3030

Sex Buddy E Bay
Sex buddy wanted in th El Sabarante, Pinole San Pablo area. If you like having your cock sucked call me. GWM 38, 5'7", 165#, hairy body. ☎ 3031

Ass service Wanted
GWM 55 120# HIV-, needs my little hairy ass massaged outside inside, by probing tongue, cock, fingers or hands, it's for your pleasure, as mind. Also I have deep throat. !! ☎ 3032

I'm Thirsty
Man with probing tongue and deep throat wants to explore your slit, experience the release of your full bladder and balls. Be under 35. Same day/night call back. ☎ 3033

Sexy Virgin Asian
Attractive, bi-curious WM, 28, 5'8", nice sexy slender body, fantasizes about pleasing & submitting to tall, attractive man with big cock. I have small, sexy ass. No weirdos/STDs. ☎ 3034

Technical recruiter's desires
Wet mouth snap to my peach ass then eat my cherry smelly buthole. Healthy, candidates: all race, young meaty straight-up cock holding vulgar pulses, G-spot dictator apply. Photos return. ☎ 3035

Glorious Showcase for Bi Stud
Rare and rewarding adventures await impressively built, potent, reliable, discreet WM capable of provoking/handling intense attention. Straight ok. Ideal for artist or student, 22-27. Recurrent parties in central SF. ☎ 3119

Uncut? Love that xtra skin!
I love to play with it, give sensual pleasure to your hot dick w/skin. Affectionate play with kissing, touching. Me: 5'11" 165, cut cock ringed w/balls for your play. Just 51. Your place for daytime, weekend pleasure. ☎ 3120

E. Bay Older man
You don't have to be model material, you just have to be cut big get naked and like to be sucked and fuck. No cockrings please I'm 6'2" 230lbs. ☎ 3121

Strip, Boy!
Toilet needs scrubbing. Dishes washed. Floors cleaned. Weeds pulled. Top serviced. Handsome Sir(44, tall, trim) seeks boy for ongoing power exchange. Be fit/muscular, cute, obedient, HIV-. ND NS. ☎ 3122

Afternoon sex buddy wanted
Topman into oral give/take with lots of hugs & kisses to. Me: attrac, GWM 48, 6'5" 250lb, football player build, brown hair/moustache You: attrac, Gwhite, latin/asian, slim, smooth/moderate body hair, nice buns. ☎ 3123

Cum on me in the E. Bay
WM 45yrs loves to have cum shot in his face. Let's do it watching video or at a park or restroom. I am 6'1" 200lbs, 8' uncut cock, call for more information. ☎ 3124

GAM sought
By this 31yo GWM br/bl 5'10" 210# professional in SF. Looking for fun, nice GAM. For mutual massage/relaxing times. ☎ 3126

GWM seeking older man
Regular basis. I am 5'5", HIV- 5'2" 115#, you must love working my ass, balls, sucking my 7" cock, be adventurous & fun, SF, Marin. ☎ 3127

Visiting Southern California
Visit Dad in 29 Palms. Dad: DWM (45) HIV- total topman/dominator! Oversexed; everhard; multi-loaded. Can't get enough! Spare bedroom for service expert. Call Mac- ☎ 3128

Wanted Hot bottoms any race
You: younger smaller clean & healthy bottom. Place to entertain. Me: Mature WM, 5'9", 165 8", un-cut, nice guy. Versatile top. Darker skin A+. ☎ 3129

Well hung bottom Seeks Hot Top
47 GWM 5'8", 140# cut oversexed bottom looking for well hung got top for heavy action. I like well built and well hung hairy men, who need hot oversexed bottom. ☎ 3027

User friendly hole to fuck
For serious tops who want easy ram access & down loading GWM 5'11", 150#, slim swimmers build, masc., goatie, easy going ready for hard-drive. You Ht/Wt prop, call now-Ac-cess granted. ☎ 3028

Versatile smooth Asian boy
I'm looking for smooth gym toned well endowed WM/M. I'm an Asian boy toy, 5'3", 110#, and full of energy. Blondes +. ☎ 3130

Hungry for cock blond
Fit late 30s. ISO GWM dark hair earthy, 35-45, ht/wt proportionate, HIV-, I suck while you shoot loads. Size no thrill, just quality cum pumping. ☎ 3235

Not good @ meeting people?
Me either. But I love safe hot sex. GWM, 55, HIV+, 6' 185lbs, clean-shaven, versatile. ISO fuck buddy for fun time. ☎ 3131

Sensual J/O oral, kissing pleasure..
Sexually active (50) seeks warm, sensual, discreet pleasure & play. Have a partner but recent medical problems has caused fading of sexual pleasures. (Not AIDS) Me: smooth 163# 5'11", HIV-, moustache, frndly, sincere guy, wknds have a place??? ☎ 3132

Let's rub boners
Stick yr dick inside my shorts. Watch me shoot right on yr big dong, pump yr load into my hot peter! I'm 45, 5'9", 150#. ☎ 3221

Cum shooters wanted...
I'll sit back, watch a porn, have a beer and let you service my dick until I shoot my sweet load! Sound good? Call me 435 preferred. ☎ 3222

Break me in
Recently deflowered college student, 6'5" 180lbs 8" seeks playful, experienced gentleman who'll stretch every orifice. Treat me to dinner and I'll cram you in for dessert! ☎ 3224

My place, your ass
Hot, hung, top, 45, 6ft, 160#, HIV+, seeks discrete bottoms. Arrive, spread cheeks and serve. ☎ 3225

Big beautiful dick proud!
Are you proud of your big beautiful dick? Why not have it serviced by an experienced, goodlooking pro. No job too big. No BS or chit chat. Immediate callback guaranteed for the right dick. Tell me what you have and what you want. ☎ 3226

Hot times N East Bay
GWM ISO HM LM WM 18-35. Let my hot magic fingers work for you. Erotic massage while you enjoy XXX movies also well earned service. Let me blow you away! ☎ 3227

Older master seeks young slave
For ongoing sexual scenes. I'm early 70s attr. and you are 18-45, gd/ok, submissive, gay or straight curious and trainable. Spankings, restraints, collars, humiliation, etc. Friendships valued. ☎ 3228

Adventurous tongue seeks
Hot but in need of exploration! Feel my bushy moustache! Me: 40-6' 165 brn/blu. You: Hot, trim & ready! ☎ 3229

Bend over I'll drive
Hung big (8") Top, 40, seeks masculine but submissive male who needs his mouth and butt filled ("safely). You: In-shape, white, under 38. ☎ 3230

Free rides given....
Well-endowed BM ISO tight bottom for frequent get togethers at your place. Not looking for relationship, just hot sex. Black, Asian, European a big plus. ☎ 3232

Sit on my face
Well built top, hung big needs well built WM (20s-30s) with big firm hairy butt to eat and fuck. ☎ 3231

Just shut up and ride!
WM 33 5'10" 200lb blond/blue muscle hunk (48" ch 32" w 18") wants good looking masculine men to pump or get pumped... Also love to get massaged and jerked off. ☎ 3233

Discreet cock play buddy
Seeking warm sincere guy into giving pleasurable sensations to each others cock & balls J/O licking 69 & lots of kissing. Sat, Sun, discreet daytime play your place. GWM 51 smooth 5'10", 164#, warm, sensitive, sincere nice guy. ☎ 3234

Totally muscular bottom
WM, 30s 5'10" 155lbs extra handsome, cut abs, bubble butt. The real deal. ISO, 20-40s, Top W/B for hot man sex pos plus, be fit, hung, & confident. ☎ 3231

Whatever you can make me do...
White, proportional, 36, HIV-, clean-shaven cut, short hair. Respond to power. I'll do what you're strong enough to make me do. ☎ 3236

Slightly kinky submissive....
Oral Black bottom seek top or dominant top verbal a plus available in eve and some weekends. ☎ 3237

Cyclist seeks cyclist
Who's into racing & has great shaved legs. I'm a GWM into cycling, speedskating and healthy lifestyles. Discreet, no strings. ☎ 3238

Latin-White Mix man..
5'10" 155lb, 30s, dark hair-eyes, hot body, pretty face washboard abs. ISO fitness stud 20-40 for excellent vanilla sex. This ad worth answering! Local. ☎ 3239

Seeking hungry mouth
Masculine, sexy, hairy, little bear with pure top energy seeks hungry, talented buddy for long, hot sessions of oral worship and service. Be verbal, imaginative, dominant, HIV-, healthy and sane. ☎ 3309

Nude socials for seniors?
I've enjoyed several. We're excluded from most ads so let's create our own celebration of maturity and manhood. Hotel chip in and direct phone # required. ☎ 3310

Men 40 60 HIV- slim any race
I jack off sucking cock and a lot more. WM cocksucker 5'11" 160 slim. Want to know more? Phone. Safe sex only. ☎ 3311

Hung top daddy wants a boy!
Blond, handsome 8 1/2" thick and uncut, in-shape, 38, got'red, hairy chest wants boyish in-shape guys for pumping and playing lets have some good clean fun! ☎ 3312

Put up or shut up!!
GWM 35, HIV+, average looking and well endowed versatile. Because I know how to use my body parts. So put up or shut up! ☎ 3313

Gulp it down real deep
WM 40sf HIV-, very masculine dominant verbal seeks very submissive HIV- cocksucker with obedient tongue and hungry deep throat, for regular long sessions at your place in SF. ☎ 3314

Bound and blindfolded fuck trip
Tie me up in very easy explicit way showing my manhole then fuck my hole. Be creative- do you read bound and gagged use scene from a hot story. ☎ 3315

Don't waste my time
Handsome muscular hung Italian seeks hot men or boys for sex not chit-chat serious sex hungry hung dudes only! ☎ 3316

Always horny? Get sucked!
Well-hung, trim, W/guys kick back for sensual bound fuck hot mouth, tongue, Married, divorced welcum. ☎ 3317

Always on the hunt!
Italian, GWM, 42, 5'10", 180# hairy, good physical and mental shape. Sks GWM, hairy for mutual oral and anal pleasures. Weekdays A+. ☎ 3318

Hot phone sex...
Strip, put your nipple clamps on get your cock up have lub handy, and let's have fun! ☎ 3319

Get naked kick back get sucked!
Great blow jobs for horny white, masc, trim guys with generous, cut, man sized cocks & balls. ☎ 3320

Hot Latino seeking hot cock
GWM 5'11" 170 HIV- n's n'd. Like to suck a hot 6" cock & get fucked and more, race & age no factor, video also, please call. ☎ 3420

Make me!
I want to be stripped, fucked, fisted and made to choke on your anything but vanilla cum. White, 35, 5'10", 170, HIV-. ☎ 3421

Attention HIV- ex-cons
GWM 50s, 5'10", 150#, looking for trim black, white, or latin straight or gay men for oral sex. No reciprocation necessary. Having men whatch A+. ☎ 3422

ISO Hardbody bottom boys
Thin or muscular, lean defined physique, low body fat, 25-40, for fuck action. Me: 6'1", 190#, br/bl, muscular, masculine, 44yrs (but don't look my age) 8" cut dick, top. Let's fuck! ☎ 3423

Poz musclebear ISO same
Hunky, hairy, poz muscle bear skin-head, hungry for rough action with very hairy musclebears. Mutual pec-work, punching, cock play and fucking, my hairy chest on your hairy back. ☎ 3424

SF Daddy seeks son & playmate
51+, GWM, 6'3", 230#, shaved head, moustache, goatie, hairy, seeks 18-30yo, slender, smooth, hung, GWM to mento & play with. ☎ 3425

Slim or small men 18-40 wanted
SF 54yo CMT Masseuse for free professional, unburied, nurturing Swedish Massage and Bodywork followed by optional Taoist erotic warm oil massage. Nonmuscular or skinny A+, daytime Haight Panhandle area. ☎ 3322

Big & fat
GBM, 44yo, 5'11", 240lbs, seeks big, heavy and pleasantly fat men for uninhibited sexual connection. My size or bigger only. Discretion. ☎ 3426

If you're man enough!
I'm bottom enough 48, 5'8", 140#, HIV+ GWM. Well-hung, Nam Vet looking for hairy well hung top for play and possible relationship! ☎ 3427

Black oral pro wanted
Well endowed uncut BM ISO mature experienced BM needed to take me deep at your place. Looks unimportant. Looking for exceptional cock-sucking on a regular basis. ☎ 3428

GWM seeking oral anal service
8 1/2" regular basis. I am 55yo, 5'2", 120#, you must love to work my ass, ball's, 7" cock. I like sucking big cock, race, age, unimportant, SF, Marin, Richmond. ☎ 3429

Do you like it hard and big?
8 1/2" regular basis. I am 55yo, 5'2", 120#, you must love to work my ass, ball's, 7" cock. I like sucking big cock, race, age, unimportant, SF, Marin, Richmond. ☎ 3429

Stroking pleasure & play
GWM 40s, HIV-, reg clean curly, 51, 6' 144#, seeks xtra play w/a nice discreet guy who has a place for sat, sun, daytime pleasure for holding, undressing each other w/lots of kissing, stroking, oral. Giving e/other pleasure that j/o alone can't give. ☎ 3418

User friendly hole to fuck
For serious tops who want easy ram access & down-loading. GWM 5'11" slim swimmers build, masc, goatie, easy-going, ready for hard-drive. You Ht/Wt prop, call now access granted. ☎ 3419

Dog seeks long term master
GWM 40s needs severe dog training, daily dog food, permanent leash and collar, cage. All forms of psycho/sexual abuse, personality extinction. Top plan for my abduction in parting glances. Woof. ☎ 3430

FETISHES

Let's bare our soles!
Lifelong attraction to men's barefeet. Crave mutual barefoot kissing licking, smelling, caressing, toe wrestling. Roles, fantasies, J/O. E.B. sensual GWM w/tee ring, 5'9", trim tan, hairy, HIV- loves barefoot! ☎ 3421

STR 8 , Masculine, Mature
Looking for senior citizen to satisfy my fantasy of being on my knees watching you jerk off up close see feel you hot cum explode on my face! ☎ 3036

Sleazy slut pigwallow Bottom
Aut. 50's, 5'10", 160#, S&P beard&hair, tats all over brilliant deepthroat, everything goes asshole, invited depraved top to party. H.D NHB plays, ws, ft, mm, sm, bd, dildoes, whatever. ☎ 3037

Power Twinkie
The hell with due process, watch me cum as I bear false witness in court and perjure. ☎ 3038

Get Smooth Now!!
GWM wants to shave your crotch, balls, ass & whatever else you like! I'd like to shave it off & get you off! Safe, fun, exp. All ages body types welcome. ☎ 3039

Calm me, Claim me
The smelly sweat of your large white feet waiting in sensual heat empasions my African soul to a torment, that can only be quenched by your spewing orgasm... HIV-. ☎ 3133

Raunchy Pig Top
Cooking for bottoms/ver- sucking, fucking, dildoes, grease, oil, sweat, pits, tits and filthy mind, me, 34, goatie 5'10". ☎ 3134

Daddy 40 says you need new...
Boxers. Because Daddy loves to play in yours and watch you show off. Daddy is looking for WM 18-25, who likes to show off in their boxers. Let's play! ☎ 3135

Dominant master seeks slave
Experienced Master seeks full-service slaveboy to train and develop. Master-lots of toys and into everything. Slave make me smile, h/v proportional. Your experience! Important-want eager slave. ☎ 3324

Fly on the wall...
Eager voyeur. I love watching sex; solo, twosomes, threesomes, etc. Vanilla to kink, all ages, sizes. GWM 31yo bl/bl 6' 210lbs, sexual intensity and easy-going attitude are key. ☎ 3325

Bathroom buddies-scot action
WM 36, looking for other masculine guys into W/S, raunch, jackstraps, underwear. Public restrooms turn you on too! The right 10 seconds of men taking a dump... ☎ 3326

Scat pig SJ
Gd/king lean dk hair moustache, 30s, 5'9" 140#. ISO very hairy hot man w/round hairy butt to come over and feed me. SJ Area. ☎ 3242

Fisting tip wanted
Small hands needed for novice fisting bottom. I'm a goodlooking guy, mid 30s, 160lb, 5'10", goatie, versatile. Let's play! ☎ 3243

Human urinal needed
Very thirsty mouths sought for recycling. Hard hose can't shut off. Looks age unimportant. Thirst is. ☎ 3244

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 32yo dark hair, brown eyes, goatie, like to go movie, dinner, hiking, tennis, travel, looking for GWM between 25-37yo for friendship or more. Just call. ☎ 3245

Let's play- J/O-watersports-
Iato-American 40+, in-shape, HIV-, hairy chest, seeks cute voyeur HIV- ethnic types. Let's get hot wet, watch in Levis, shorts! Sons welcome! ☎ 3246

Bondage for Asians
WM, 50 will strip tie you up, play with your cock and balls, tits and make you cum. Muscular a plus. ☎ 3240

Whack it
Mature Daddy seeks men for J/O and tit play. Interested in having a good time with a pleasant man. Affectionate-fun-relaxed. ☎ 3433

Master lover friend
Baggage free VGL blond blue 5'8", GWM HIV- 30yo, 170#, 31w, in SJ. Searching for a master, love best friend and lifemate to tie me down and bash my balls one time and then make gentle love to me the next masculine, aggressive and in-control in the bedroom and my equal elsewhere. You: intelligent, taller than I, handsome and muscular. ☎ 3247

Eager for a fight
Serious GWM brawler, 51, 5-10, 170, HIV-, hairy chest seeks HIV-, opponent to fight for dominance. None or minimal rules. Come on punk, lets fight! ☎ 3431

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Get your asshole eaten by a pro! ☎ 3432

Something silky underneath?
BM seeking very masculine WM stud with a twist. Pull down your pants. Let me see you in your panties, stockings, and garters and then let me suck you off. ☎ 3433

Total pig bottom wanted
Goodlooking, smart, smooth-body, 32yo with gym toned musc, body, seeks hungry and thirsty pig cum, spit, piss and scat for ongoing intense get-togethers. ☎ 3434

Diaperboy ISO Daddy and or bro
Me 35, 6', 200lbs, brn, hzl, like diapers and wetting discipline. You any age like being dad to brat spanking, also would like to hear from other diaper boys. ☎ 3435

Male masculine submissive
Seeks 40+ dominant HIV+ top. Both are clean intelligent, imaginative, bondage, CBT toys. ☎ 3437

COUPLES

BI AM seeks GW couple
To explore fantasies with a sexy fisting, 30. Let me be your sex toy. I am handsome, professional, and versatile. Singles ok too. ☎ 3136

Seeking friends
BI WM 30s HIV+ in-shape, Oakland area seeks other Oakland area people for mutual encounters. Prefer M/F/F couples. Versatile, open minded. ☎ 3137

Sonoma Couple looking for 3-Way
We are 42&50 210lbs 6'1" & 6'2", looking for 30-50 into tit play bottom or top just good sex! ☎ 3138

ISO Hairy bodybuilder couple
X-tra hands & mouth for big hairy pecs, etc. for masc. mature shashed/bearded BBS. Me-tall, lean furry, slash, go-T, 40s brn/hzl, wanna help eat your buddies pecs. HIV+ok. ☎ 3139

Middle-aged sexual fun
LT couple looking for 3way. Me: 48, 6', 210#, hry top. He: 56, 5'11", 175#, smth. bot. You: masc. mid-aged top who likes to suck, get sucked & fuck hot butt hole. ☎ 3438

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Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR TALK Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY** at 5 PM, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. One ad per customer per week.

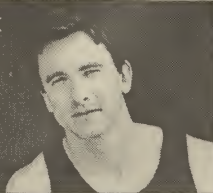
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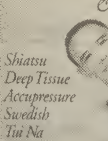
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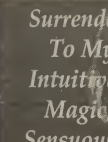


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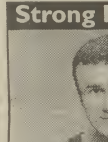
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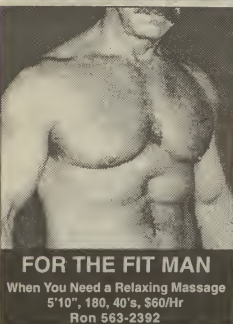
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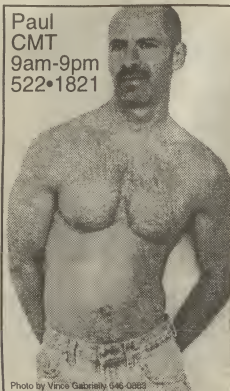


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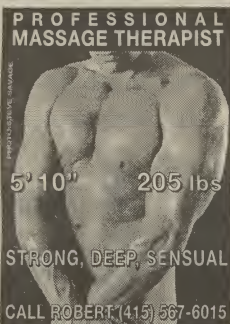


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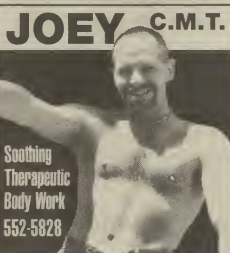
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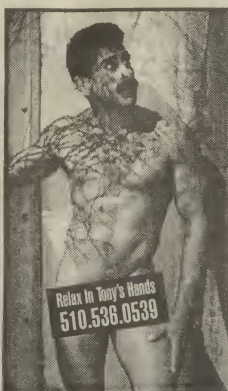
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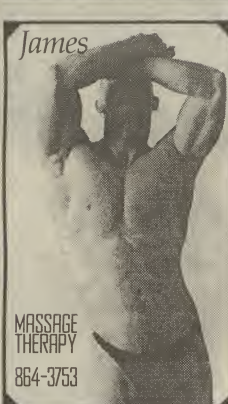
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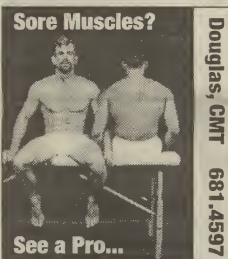
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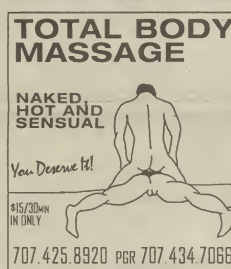
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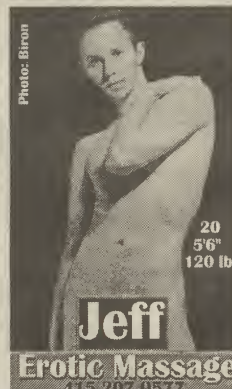


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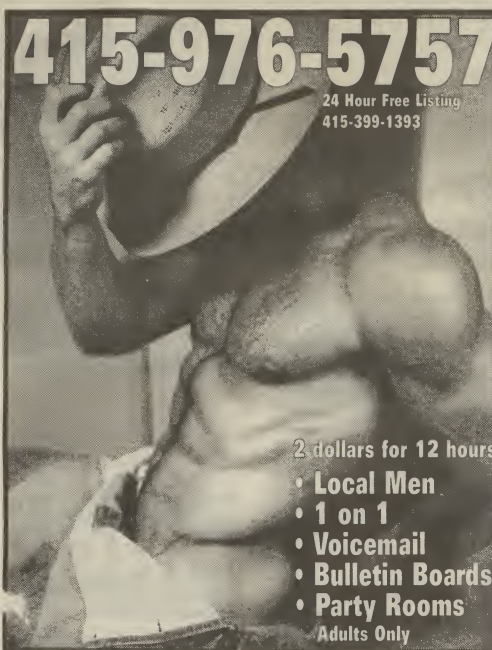
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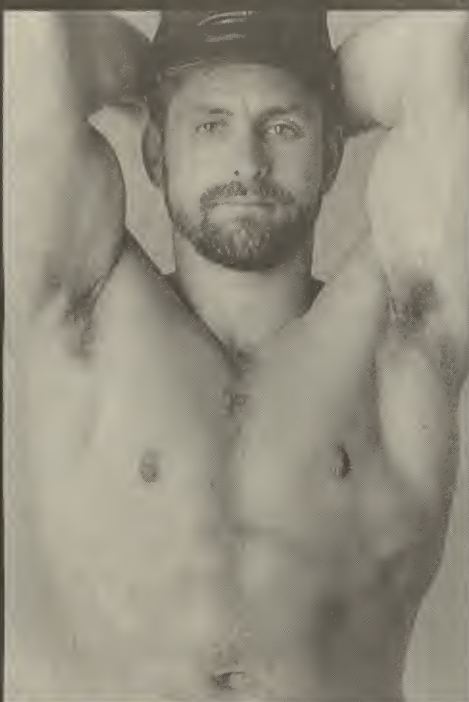
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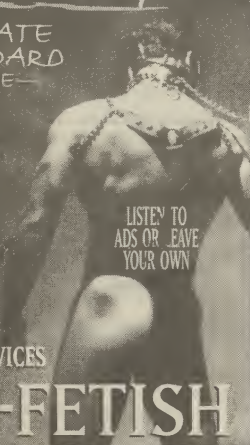
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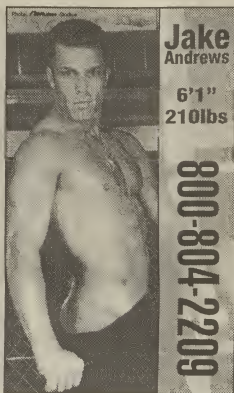
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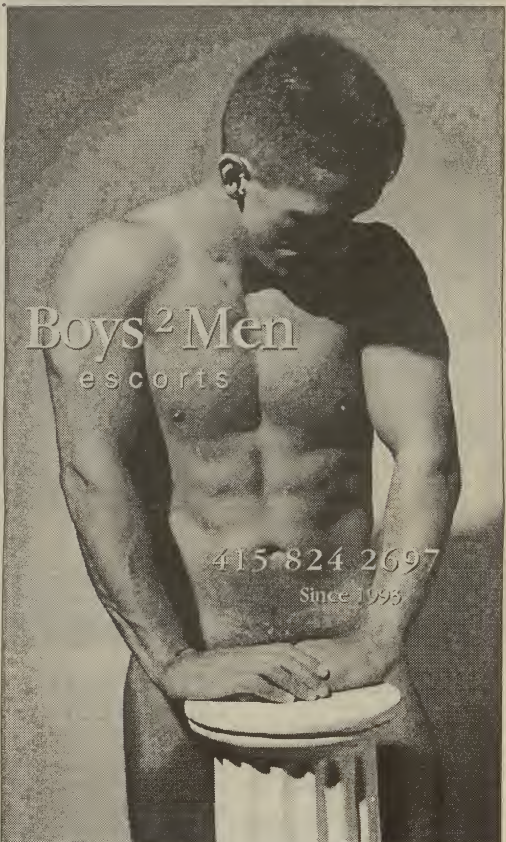
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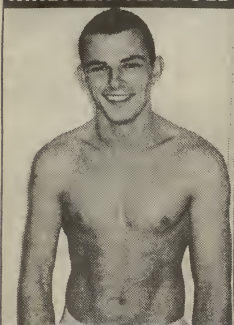
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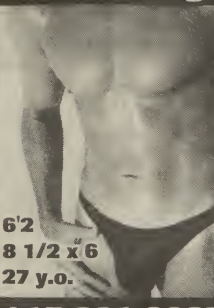
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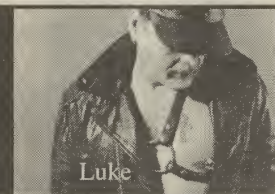
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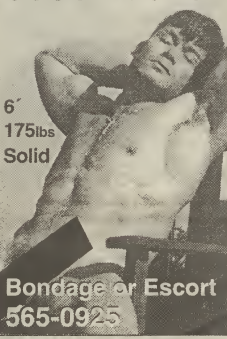


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Australian for more details

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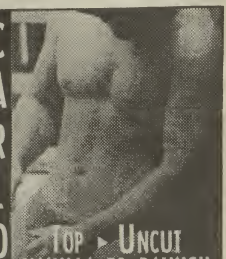
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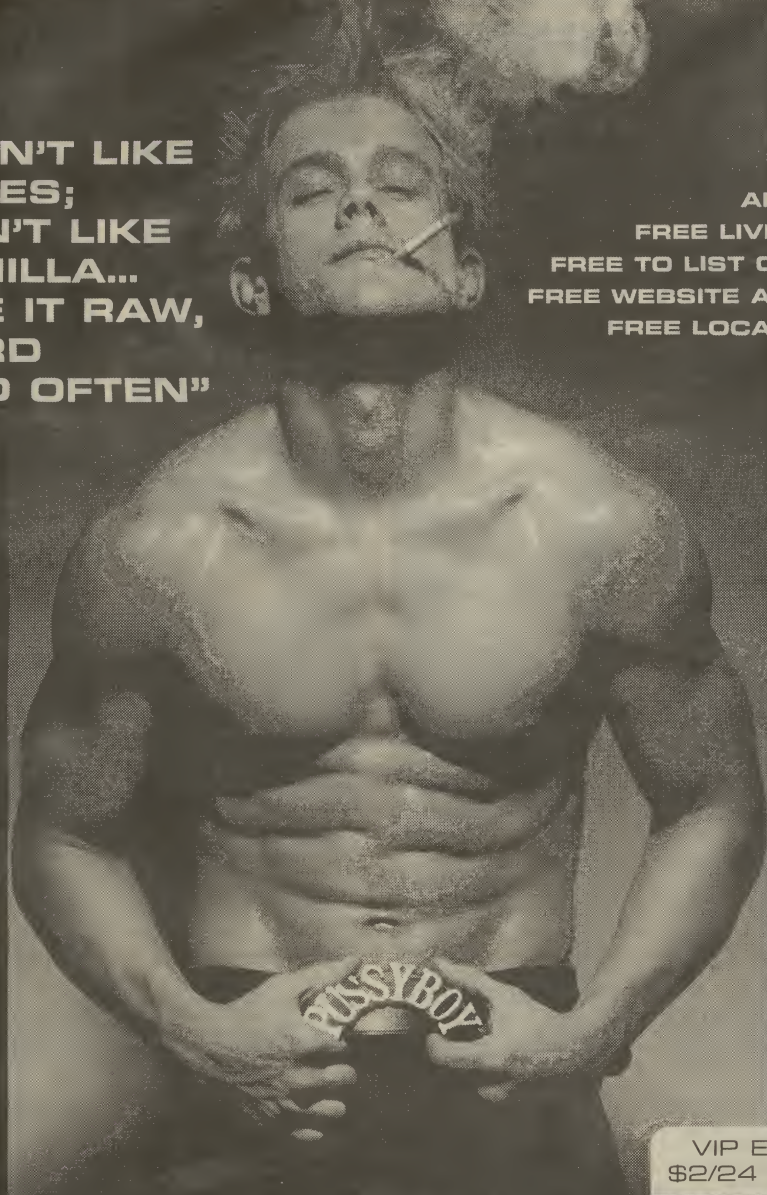
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